

PLO: Cheysson remarks 'regrettable'

DAR ESSALAM (R) — An official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was Monday quoted as regretting comments by French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson on a U.N. conference on Palestine. Mr. Cheysson told French Television last week that France would have preferred that the conference should not take place in Paris in August because "we do not see what it is going to achieve other than allow the expression of extremist views". The Tanzanian government newspaper, the Daily News, quoted the PLO representative in Lebanon, Shafik Al Hout, as saying: "It is regrettable to hear such a statement from Mr. Cheysson, who represents a country that used to claim a progressive position towards the struggle of the people of Palestine." Mr. Hout said the decision to hold the conference in Paris was taken by the U.N. General Assembly, "not by a group of extremist countries".

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
 جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة
 الجريدة المستقلة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Volume 8 Number 2231

AMMAN, TUESDAY APRIL 5, 1983 — JUMADA AL THANI 22, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Qasem, Sharif Zaid meet U.S. representative

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem received at his office Monday U.S. House of Representatives member Lee Aspin. Mr. Qasem explained to Mr. Aspin the latest developments involving the Middle East issue and the current situation in the area. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker also received Mr. Aspin at his office. The two meetings were attended by U.S. Ambassador to Amman Richard Viets.

Rabat to send summit invitations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four Moroccan envoys are expected to leave Rabat Tuesday carrying invitations from King Hassan to Arab leaders to attend an extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Morocco on April 16. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported from the Moroccan capital. Quoting official Moroccan sources, INA said that one of King Hassan's special advisers will leave for Gulf Arab states, while Foreign Minister Mohammed Bouceita is scheduled to visit Syria and Libya. Two other envoys, Ahmad Rida Kararah and Abdul Latif Al Filali, will leave for other Arab countries, INA said.

Israel sends message to Moscow

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has informed the Soviet Union, through diplomatic channels and an unidentified third country, Soviet charges that Israel plans to attack Syria are "groundless", an Israeli newspaper reported Monday. The daily Maariv said that Israel has sent a letter to Moscow stating that it "intends to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as an agreement on security arrangements was reached with the Lebanese government." The newspaper said that the message also stated that Israel has no "territorial or other claims in Lebanon."

TASS warns Tokyo against nuclear plans

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS said Monday Japan was clearly conniving at an American nuclear build-up in the Far East and advised Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to reconsider what it called a risky policy. "Tokyo should understand that the Soviet Union, (and) the socialist countries of Asia, will not remain indifferent to the plans of further drawing Japan into the nuclear strategy of the USA," TASS political commentator Boris Cherkonin wrote. Mr. Nakasone has denied the presence of any U.S. nuclear weapons on Japanese territory, but the TASS commentary said this was just "putting a good face on the matter."

Gloria Swanson dies

NEW YORK (R) — Actress Gloria Swanson, one of Hollywood's biggest stars in the 1920s and 30s, died Monday, officials of New York Hospital said. She was 84. They declined to give the cause of death. Miss Swanson entered hospital on March 20.

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Jordan-PLO talks continue

By Lamis Andoni
 Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Monday held a fourth round of talks on joint moves to find a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Arafat, who has been engaged in intensified talks with the King since his arrival in Jordan last Thursday, also chaired an important meeting of the PLO Executive Committee.

Although the exact nature of the talks between the King and the PLO chairman was not disclosed, a PLO Executive Committee member told the Jordan Times there is "an agreement on basic issues" and that the outcome of the talks will be referred to an Arab summit scheduled to be held in the Moroccan city of Fez on April 16. The PLO will request the summit to review all peace initiatives and proposals for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict, including a plan announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan last September, he said.

A Jordan-PLO joint statement, which was expected to be issued after Monday's meeting, was apparently postponed. A Palestinian source said that the expected statement will focus on three major points.

It would call on the United States to announce the basic principle of a Middle East solution that Israel will withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, the source said. Secondly, it would stress on a coordinated stand between Jordan and the PLO at the forthcoming Arab summit, and finally that Jordan and the PLO will adopt joint and unified political moves in efforts for peace in the Middle East.

"These moves will be carried out within the framework of a unified Arab move, to be decided at the Arab summit," the source said.

"However, we stress that the Reagan plan alone is not enough for a just and durable peace in the Middle East," the executive committee member said.

The Reagan plan calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan. After its meetings in Algiers last February, the Palestine National Council (PNC) rejected the plan as a basis for a permanent solution to the Palestinian problem and endorsed instead an Arab peace plan adopted at last September's Arab summit held in Fez, Morocco.

Statements given by PLO officials, before and after the Executive Committee meeting on Monday, ranged from outright rejection of the American initiative to expressions of cautious reservations.

PLO Executive Committee member Nuhayn Abu Maizar told reporters Monday that he "does not see any positive elements in the American initiative" and felt that the PLO should not "fall in the trap of the U.S. plan."

Other PLO officials questioned the "willingness and seriousness" of the United States to implement its proposals, which have been rejected outright by Israel. "We need tangible evidence from Washington," another PLO official, who refused to be identified, told the Jordan Times.

The credibility of American intentions in the Middle East, the

representation of the Palestinian people in any peace negotiations and their right to an independent state seem to be the central subjects discussed since the announcement of the Reagan plan last September.

The United States has said it does not recognise the PLO as the representative of the Palestinians and refuses to negotiate with the organisation.

The American plan calls for Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967, a freeze on all Israeli settlements in the occupied areas and Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

PLO officials have repeatedly said that the plan refuses to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and ignores the PLO which is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Furthermore, American failure to secure Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and a freeze on all Israeli settlements in the occupied territories have created suspicion by the Palestinians on the credibility of the U.S. to exert any pressure on Israel, and implement the plan.

Monday's PLO Executive Committee meeting in Amman reviewed the situation in the occupied territories in the aftermath of the mass poisoning of Palestinians and extremist Jewish attempts to take over Islamic shrines.

Mr. Maizar told reporters that the meeting condemned the Israeli "aggressions against the Palestinians and religious places in the occupied territories which are part of the Zionist plan to scare and evict the Palestinian people from their homeland."

Despite the fact that PLO officials have repeatedly insisted on the organisation's right to represent the Palestinians in any peace negotiation, Palestinian sources said that the issue of representation can be solved provided that the PLO has the right to name the Palestinian representative and the U.S. guarantees to secure an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories clearing the way for an independent Palestinian state.

"A written pledge by the American administration might be an acceptable guarantee," the sources said.

After Monday's meeting, Mr. Abu Maizar strongly condemned U.S. policies in the Middle East and said that the PLO will adopt measures to undermine American interests in the Middle East.

There was no official word from the Jordanian side on the outcome of the Hussein-Arafat talks. But senior Jordanian officials, prior to the current round of talks, have stressed that Jordan will not participate in any negotiations without Palestinian representation and PLO approval.

The current intensified talks in Amman prove that there is no fundamental differences between the PLO and Jordan in their attitude towards current developments, a PLO official told the Jordan Times.



Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat chairs a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Challenger blasts off into space

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE, Florida (R) — The new space shuttle Challenger blasted off from here Monday on its first flight and the sixth U.S. shuttle mission in less than two years.

Powered by three liquid-fuel engines and two solid booster rockets, Challenger lifted off precisely on time at 1:30 p.m. (1830 GMT) after a trouble-free countdown.

The gleaming spacecraft with its bright orange external fuel tank climbed into a clear blue sky in the first afternoon launch of a shuttle. High-altitude winds, which had earlier in the day threatened a postponement, did not affect the launch and Challenger roared towards an orbit about 280 kilometres from Earth.

Challenger, second of four shuttle orbiters, trailed a cloud of steam which engulfed the launch pad and drifted over the nearby Atlantic Ocean.

Its five rocket engines released a shock wave which was felt many kilometres away.

Challenger's crew—mission commander Paul Weitz, pilot Karol Bobko and specialist Story Musgrave and Donald Peterson—was scheduled to deploy an important communications satellite about 10 hours after launch, one of the major objectives of the five-day mission.

A little more than two minutes after blast-off Challenger's two booster rockets had already burned up their tonnes of solid fuel and they were jettisoned over the Atlantic.

The 45-metre rockets parachuted down to the ocean for retrieval by two special recovery ships. They will be used on later missions.

After the boosters were discarded, Challenger's three liquid-fuel main engines continued to propel it away from Earth.

Problems with those engines delayed Challenger's first flight for more than two months.

The launch, originally set for late January, was also delayed for several days by a February storm which left dust and sand particles in Challenger's cargo hold.

But it was a series of leaks in the complicated liquid fuel engines which caused the major delay. They had to be replaced before the mission.

Intriguing variety of cargo on board, page 8

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Mubarak arrives in North Korea

TOKYO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Pyongyang Monday for a one-day official visit to North Korea during which he will hold talks with President Kim Il Sung, the North Korean Central News Agency said.

The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said Mr. Mubarak was greeted by Mr. Kim at the airport on his arrival from a four-day visit to China.

Describing Mr. Mubarak as a "goodwill envoy" of Egypt, the agency said crowds turned out in Pyongyang to welcome him.

Mr. Mubarak is due to arrive in Tokyo Tuesday on the third leg of

a four-nation Asian tour, which will later take him to Indonesia.

Officials said the Middle East situation was high on the agenda at meetings Mr. Mubarak had with Premier Zhao Ziyang, Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang and influential elder statesman Deng Xiaoping.

According to Chinese reports, Mr. Deng Sunday told the Egyptian leader a settlement of the Middle East conflict depended on Arab unity and he hoped Cairo would play a greater role in strengthening this unity.

Mr. Mubarak told Mr. Deng the Arab states were closing ranks and that Egypt was determined to

improve relations with the other Arab countries, the reports said.

Relations between Egypt and other states were strained when Cairo signed a treaty with Israel.

At a news conference after the talks ended, the president described Egypt's disagreements with other Arab countries as "superficial and temporary" and merely "minor differences between brothers."

He urged the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Jordan to reach a common approach for negotiations on the U.S. peace plan put forward by President Reagan last September.

Austrian leaves Syria after prisoner talks

DAMASCUS (R) — Austrian special envoy Herbert Army left Damascus Monday for home to report on talks about a possible exchange of prisoners between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a PLO official said.

Col. Abu Ziad, who has been representing the PLO in contacts on a prisoner exchange, said Mr. Army told him he would return to the Middle East after bringing Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky up to date on his mission.

The PLO wants to exchange eight Israelis captured last September for 1,000 Palestinians in jail in Israel and 5,400 Palestinians and Lebanese held in an Israeli prison camp at Ansar in South Lebanon. Austria has been acting as mediator in the contacts

because Israel refuses to deal directly with the PLO.

Col. Abu Ziad said Mr. Army had brought him Israel's reply to the conditions laid down by the PLO. PLO officials have said these include demands that Israel should admit it is holding 300 Palestinian fighters who have been missing since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June and should give prisoner-of-war status to those held at Ansar.

Col. Abu Ziad gave few details of the Israeli reply, saying only that the Israelis had insisted the International Committee of Red Cross be allowed to visit two Israeli prisoners who have not been seen since their capture.

The PLO says the two are being held by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General

Command. The other six Israelis are in the hands of the mainstream Fatah commando group and have been seen regularly by outsiders.

Reports from Israel say that as part of any exchange deal the government there is also asking for information on Israeli troops missing and believed captured by Syria.

Mr. Army has visited both Israel and the Ansar camp during his visit to the Middle East. PLO officials in Amman said that at Ansar he was given a detailed list of Palestinians held by Israel. He also conferred with the chairman of the camp prisoners' committee, who gave him a report on conditions there. Israel Radio said Monday that Mr. Army was given "an accurate list of prisoners" held in Ansar.

Portuguese election campaign gets off

LISBON (R) — Portugal's fifth general election campaign since its 1974 revolution officially got under way Monday without the usual excitement, noise and celebration.

A few groups set out at midnight armed with election posters and paste, and youths from the tiny Monarchist Party began a new wall painting in central Lisbon. But the festive atmosphere of immediate post-revolutionary campaigns was lacking.

The subdued start was partly due to a long and weary government crisis, beginning with Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsemão's resignation in December, which gave the political parties ample time to have their propaganda ready for the dissolution of parliament in February.

Most available poster space was covered by Sunday night and political leaders had already enjoyed plenty of radio and television time in preparation for the April 25 election.

Contributing to the subdued atmosphere of the campaign is the gloomy message of the politicians, whose speeches are dominated by economic crisis and preach austerity and hard times ahead.

Former Prime Minister Mario Soares, whose Socialist Party is expected to come out top in the elections, set the tone of the campaign with press conferences explaining the dire state of the Portuguese economy.

Describing Portugal's economic situation as highly dangerous, Mr. Soares said: "We wish to enter the political debate at the start of the

election campaign in a serious and rigorous manner... we appeal to the good sense and sacrifice of the Portuguese people."

Portugal, with a population of 10 million, has a foreign debt of \$13 billion, inflation running at 22 per cent, and a public sector deficit of 150 billion escudos (\$1.5 billion).

Mr. Soares blamed the economic ills on three years of government by the outgoing three-party democratic alliance coalition.

Because the country's electoral system favours coalitions and Mr. Soares' socialists are unlikely to win the 43 per cent of the vote needed for an absolute majority, he has said he would be willing to make a post-election alliance with the Social Democratic Party (PSD).

Thai jet bombs Vietnamese forces

BANGKOK (R) — A Thai plane Monday bombed Vietnamese troops inside Thailand to an important escalation of the fighting on the Thai-Kampuchean border. It was believed to be the first time that Thailand had acted from the air to counter incursions by the Vietnamese across the ill-defined frontier during their battle against Kampuchean guerrillas. Thai military sources said the F-5E fighter-bomber made two strikes against Vietnamese forces in the slopes of Phnom Pra, a mountain straddling the border near the overrun Khmer Rouge base at Phnom Chat. The plane also bombed Vietnamese troops on the Thai side of the border opposite Phnom Chat, the sources said. They estimated the number of Vietnamese troops on Thai territory at about 150 but could not say how many were hit in the air raids.

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Iran rejects Iraqi truce offer to clean oil slick

BAHRAIN (R) — Iran turned down Monday an Iraqi offer of a limited ceasefire to allow neutral experts to stem widespread pollution of the Gulf.

It said Iraq should first give safe conduct to repair crews standing by to cap the two damaged offshore platforms in a dangerous war zone.

Ambassador Ali Shams Ardakani said here Iraq should retract a war communiqué in which it said ships close to the leaking oilfield would be military targets.

"All Iraq has to do is to retract a March 2 statement and say it will not attack," he told Reuters.

Mr. Shams is leading the Iranian delegation to crisis talks here of pollution experts from all the Gulf states.

Setting out the Iraqi offer, an official spokesman in Baghdad told Reuters the ceasefire, to let repair crews cap shattered Iranian wells at the head of the Gulf, should be under the auspices of the United Nations or other international bodies.

"The ceasefire should not give the Iranian regime the opportunity to clean up the waterways in the Gulf or enable it to sail its ships and carry weapons or ammunition through these waterways or clear the zone of naval mines,"

the spokesman said. He said he was replying to a statement by Iranian Prime Minister Hossein Mousavi which, he said, attempted to blame Iraq for the oil slick.

Thick black oil pouring from damaged oil installations in the Nowruz field has spread over an estimated 7,500 square miles (19,000 square kilometers).

Khaled Fakhro, chairman of the meeting here, told reporters oil was still pouring from one damaged well at the rate of 3,000 barrels daily. Two other wells were in fire, he added.

Officials in Abu Dhabi said the chief of the U.S. coastguard, Charles Colbert, and two American pollution experts had arrived in the United Arab Emirates to advise on slick control.

The experts ended their talks with a recommendation that the leaking wells be capped as soon as possible.

Mr. Fakhro told reporters the delegates called for the formation of a committee to assess the potential oil leak damage.

The recommendations will go before a meeting of Gulf environment ministers or senior officials in Kuwait on Wednesday, he said.

Egypt praises Reagan's ban on F-16 deliveries to Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Monday praised President Reagan's decision to halt a shipment of 75 F-16 fighter bombers to Israel and urged the United States to adopt other practical steps to put an end to Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali told newsmen: "We hope this significant step will be followed by even more effective measures."

Mr. Reagan said on Thursday that the shipment could not be sent because Israeli troops were occupying Lebanon and "under the law, these weapons must be

used for defensive purposes." Egypt, the only Arab state with diplomatic relations with Israel, has downgraded its ties with its neighbour since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June.

"It is illogical that Israel persists on its occupation of Lebanese territory and at the same time obtains more weapons to consolidate its aggressive plans in the Middle East," he said.

Mr. Ghali said that Israel should not hope for an improvement in relations with Egypt unless it withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

U.S. experts arrive in Israel to probe mass poisoning cases

TEL AVIV (R) — Two American experts have arrived in Israel to investigate the mystery illness that has struck about 850 Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank during the past 10 days.

As the specialists began work, Israel's chief investigator, Baruch Modan, director-general of the Health Ministry, repeated his claim that there was no evidence of poisoning in the cases.

In the latest outbreak of illness, about 300 Palestinians, most of them school girls, were taken to hospital after complaining of nausea and dizziness. Most were released after a few hours' observation.

Mr. Modan said the American experts came from the Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. This centre investigated the legionnaire's disease outbreak in Philadelphia in 1976.

Another two experts from the World Health Organisation were expected to arrive Monday to begin their own inquiry. Mr. Modan said.

He told Reuters another inquiry, carried out by a Red Cross representative, concluded the illness was a mass phenomenon with no organic cause.

Security officials said Israeli troops arrested Arabs who drove through the West Bank city of Nablus in two loudspeaker cars Monday broadcasting that the water supply was poisoned.

Demonstrations were reported in two other West Bank towns. The officials said a bomb exploded in Abasan without causing injury and an Israeli civilian was injured by stones thrown by demonstrators as he drove through the town of Kalkilya.

Two Palestinians were hurt when another motorist drove through the stone-throwing crowd.

Most of those struck by the mystery illness have been from Jenin, in the north of the West Bank. But the epidemic has now been reported in several other places, including Yatta, 120 kilometres to the south.

Moscow stresses tough stand against U.S. offer

MOSCOW (R) — The United States is wrong to think Moscow might reconsider its rejection of President Reagan's plan for an interim missile agreement, the official news agency TASS said Monday.

Commenting on the reaction of U.S. State Department officials to a news conference by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on Saturday, TASS said they had responded with "unusual haste" and did not appear to have read the text of his remarks.

Mr. Gromyko said Moscow found the Reagan proposal unacceptable. He said no less Washington changed its stand there was no chance of an agreement at current talks on medium-range missiles in Geneva.

State Department spokesmen said they considered his comments were not the Soviet Union's last word on the issue and that the

Kremlin might in fact be ready to discuss an accord on the basis of the president's offer.

"Calculations by certain circles in the United States on a change in the clear and unambiguous stand of the Soviet Union with regard to Reagan's 'interim proposal' are built on sand," TASS said Monday.

TASS quoted in full Mr. Gromyko's remarks that the Geneva talks would fail if Washington stuck to the Reagan plan, and said U.S. officials should take note of them.

"State Department officials in their propagandist fever probably failed even to read carefully the account of the press conference," the agency said.

President Reagan's interim proposal called for the U.S. and the Soviet Union to agree to global parity in the number of medium-range nuclear warheads.

FEATURES

Presidential protection is still a major issue in U.S.

By David Nagy

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Two years after Ronald Reagan survived a gunman's attack, the United States still grapples with the problems of presidential protection and firearms violence.

Though Mr. Reagan still governs in good health and his assailant is behind bars, bitter argument goes on over how to curb random violence, control handguns and ensure justice in a society that prizes its freedom.

On March 30, 1981, as the president was leaving a Washington hotel, a deranged drifter, John Hinckley, stepped from the crowd, and fired six shots.

One bullet struck Mr. Reagan in the left lung before Secret Service bodyguards could shove him into his car and tackle the would-be assassin.

Other shots felled White House Press Secretary James Brady, secret serviceman Tim McCarthy and policeman Thomas Delahanty.

It was the ninth assassination attempt against a U.S. president and the fourth in two decades, since John F. Kennedy was murdered in Dallas allegedly by Lee Harvey Oswald on Nov. 22, 1963.

Of all the questions raised by the Reagan assault and its aftermath, the only ones answered so far concern the immediate fates of victims and attacker.

The president survived emergency chest surgery with amazing resilience, and went on to win many battles with Congress the same year.

In a show of high spirits a few nights ago, he took the stage at a satirical review put on by journalists and, attired in silver sombrero and red blanket, sang a song

satirising his own record to the tune of Manana Is Good Enough For Me.

Hinckley, now 27, was found "not guilty by reason of insanity" on June 21, 1982, in a verdict that outraged and baffled much of the public but fulfilled the requirements of laws protecting those suffering severe mental disorders.

The defence showed he had long been under psychiatric care, showed signs of serious illness and was infatuated to the point of lunacy with actress Jodie Foster. He had written a note saying he was going to shoot Mr. Reagan to impress her.

He is confined in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, where he took an overdose of medicine in an apparent suicide attempt last month. Doctors revived him.

At St. Elizabeth's, where his top-security confinement was already costing a reported \$60,000 a year, Hinckley was put under special 24-hour watch after the overdose episode.

One hospital official declined to say whether that surveillance remained in force, on the grounds that details of Hinckley's situation are ordinarily kept confidential.

Other hospital officials, however, confirmed that Hinckley retained the right to request court review of his case every six months -- and release if found mentally healthy.

Of Hinckley's other victims, Mr. Brady, the presidential press secretary, suffered a grievous brain wound but is fighting strongly to recover the use of his limbs and speech. Usually in a wheelchair, he is trying to resume some work and is one of Washington's most popular and admired figures.

Secret serviceman McCarthy recovered quickly from a stomach wound, but police officer Delahanty, shot in the neck and shoulder, retired with partial disability in one arm.

Two weeks ago, these three filed for \$14 million damages against the psychiatrist who treated Hinckley before the Reagan attack, asserting that the doctor should have known his patient was dangerous and taken corrective steps.

Beyond the personal torments, the assassination attempt has left a fall-out of bitter, unresolved debate over sweeping issues of public policy.

The Secret Service still labours to guard the life of a man who must appear often in public and meet many strangers.

Protection extends into the innermost recesses of the White

House, where bodyguards in well-tailored suits man the hallways. They do not take their eyes off an unfamiliar visitor, even though the visitor has been cleared through two barriers, holds a pass and is escorted by a White House aide.

Despite recent history, efforts to protect the president can stir controversy -- as happened last week, when White House guards made some visiting Hispanic-Americans step through a metal detector. Critics took offence at what they considered an unusual move to single this group out for security checks.

A reformist drive for stricter gun controls also followed the Reagan attack but has made almost no progress.

The centrepiece of the crusade -- a model law to freeze all hand-

gun sales in California -- was rejected overwhelmingly by voters last November, while New Hampshire and Nevada strengthened laws enshrining the right to keep and bear arms.

The reformers also got nowhere with efforts to strengthen a federal gun control law dating from 1968, riddled with loopholes, which merely prohibits sales to minors, admitted felons and mental cases, and residents from another state.

Obtaining a gun requires little more than showing a driving licence in most places. By conservative estimate, there were more than 50 million hand-guns in circulation the day Mr. Reagan was shot, and the total increases by about two million a year.

Opposing the reformers is a dedicated and well-financed gun lobby and a number of prestigious

individuals, including Ronald Reagan, who calls gun control "ineffective and unconstitutional."

According to the latest available figures, hand-guns were used in half the 20,053 murders committed in America in 1981.

More effective momentum for reform may emerge from public anger over the federal disability-defence law used by Hinckley, which many consider far too lenient and loosely drawn.

While the debate involves complex legal, moral and medical issues, much support has arisen for proposals to limit the defence to a showing that the accused could not tell right from wrong. The burden of proof would be upon the defence.

Mr. Reagan has submitted a proposal of this type to Congress.

U.S. food stamps play key role in high fraud

By Kelly Gilbert

Reuter

BALTIMORE, Maryland — Fraud in the U.S. food programme for the poor has become such big business that food stamps are being used to buy cars, boats, stereos and even houses, according to investigators.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspector general's office says that of the \$10.2 billion programme aimed at feeding the poor, at least \$1 billion worth is falling into the hands of defrauders and black marketers.

"The majority of recipients [of the cash-value food coupons] are dirt poor and they spend their

stamps on food," said Mary O'Mara, a USDA investigator.

But she added, "I can go to any city in this country and find somebody who would be more than willing to buy my food stamps at a discount."

"I can't think of anything you can't buy with food stamps... cars, boats, cigarettes, liquor, stereos, even a house in Las Vegas."

USDA Inspector General John Graziano says the fraud is growing because "there are so many people involved in handling and receiving them that criminal opportunities are endless."

The black market process starts with postal thieves, crooked caseworkers or welfare cheaters who

use multiple aliases to obtain illicit food stamps.

They sell the stolen stamps for cash at a discount to street hustlers, drug dealers and fences (handlers of stolen goods).

In turn, these middlemen raise prices and sell the stamps to crooked market owners, bankers or businessmen who have the connections to launder them at face value through government-authorised stores.

In a major case here last week, federal agents charged Maryland State Democratic Senator Tommie Broadwater and three other men with conspiracy related to an alleged \$70,000 food stamp laundering operation in Washington D.C. and suburban Prince George's County, Maryland.

Mr. Broadwater is Maryland's only black senator outside Baltimore, a member of the legislature's Budget and Taxation Committee and a major political figure in the state.

He is not the first public official to be accused of taking part in the food stamp fraud.

A former New Mexico State Senator, Eddie Barboa, was recently convicted of illegally buying food stamps at a discount rate for cash and a South Carolina State Senator, Theo Mitchell, has been charged with accepting food stamps for legal work.

Bingo: British women's most popular pastime

By Jonathan Clayton

Reuter

LONDON — The much-mocked British game of Bingo is the nation's most popular daily pastime and even performs an important social function, according to an academic report just published here.

It also says that for many British women bingo — a numbers game played in a variety of guises throughout the world — is a lifeline providing them with their only social contact outside the home.

The report, which cost 29,000 sterling (\$42,000) and took two years to prepare, was drawn up by two college lecturers. More than

7,000 people were interviewed and some intriguing facts about contemporary British life uncovered.

Six million people play the game and every day up to 500,000 go to the country's 1,600 licensed Bingo clubs. More than 85 per cent of the players are women, with an average age of 52.

"Players love it," said Margaret Talbot, one of the authors. "It's theirs. Perhaps even more than football, you could call it the people's game."

The authors argue that women do not have a free choice in leisure pursuits, with bars considered unsafe and family demands making other options difficult. Their

research found that Bingo and the church were the only places to which many husbands allowed their wives to go on their own.

Bingo, a descendant of Lotto, involves the player trying to match numbers on a card with those chosen at random by a caller and getting them into a straight line on the card.

The survey was sponsored by the Bingo Industry, which hopes the findings will help it in a campaign for earlier opening hours and a loosening of other controls.

It says a widely held public view of Bingo halls full of irresponsible women squandering money and neglecting their children is false. Most play

once a week, spending on average 3.88 sterling (about \$5) a session. The authors say they did not uncover one serious case of addiction.

In fact, the report argues that the Bingo hall, far from tempting mothers from their children, forms the centre of a major social service, with many elderly people relying on Bingo for companionship and somewhere warm to go in winter.

"If there is addiction of any sort it is to companionship, not the game," said Mrs. Talbot. "We were surprised by the lack of crime most women had for themselves and the amount of accountability to families," she added.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

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HOME NEWS

Iraqi to succeed Qaddouri

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) ministerial meeting Sunday elected Mr. Mahdi Muhsen Odeh from Iraq as CAEU Secretary-General to succeed Dr. Fakhri Qaddouri whose mandate ends on April 30. Mr. Mohammad Al Sharrif from Syria was elected as his deputy with responsibility for economic affairs.

Delegation to Brussels tariff talks departs

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Customs Cooperation Council left for Brussels Monday to attend the meetings of the council's customs tariff committee, which will begin Tuesday. Finance and Customs Ministry Under-Secretary Adel Al Qudah, who is heading the delegation, said the committee will discuss the possibility of amending the structure of world customs charges to go along with the developments of the age and to bridge the country to country gaps which appeared when the tariff was put to practical application.

Customs revenues up on '82

AMMAN (J.T.) — Customs revenues for March 1983 totalled JD 15.5 million, bringing the total revenues for the first three months of 1983 to JD 43,226,000. Compared with the same period last year, total revenues increased by JD 5,604,000. The state had estimated the customs revenues for the purpose of the 1983 general budget at JD 159 million.

1,000 enjoy concert at Jerash

AMMAN (J.T.) — Around 1,000 enthusiastic listeners Sunday afternoon enjoyed the open air concert of the German Langenhagen Symphonic Brass Orchestra in the Roman amphitheatre in Jerash. The orchestra, which held the concert as part of the European Community Spring Festival, presented a programme of classical music, including waltzes, and modern music.

During the concert, the German band and the big band sound received particularly outstanding applause.

The orchestra is scheduled to give two other concerts on April 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. in the Royal Cultural Centre.

Agri credit approved

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) approved Monday loans amounting to JD 671,000 to 71 agricultural projects. Al Ra'i newspaper reported Monday.

The paper said JD 245,000 of the amount has been allocated to develop irrigation networks, JD 225,000 to dig artesian wells, JD 67,000 for the cultivation of fruit-bearing trees in the highlands, and the rest for various other agricultural projects.

The paper also said that the ACC board of directors has also decided to allow farmers in the Jordan Valley to acquire loans to finance the purchase of plastic mulch green houses and to install irrigation networks. It has also decided to allow the Jordan Valley farmers to obtain seasonal loans.

Hot springs to close

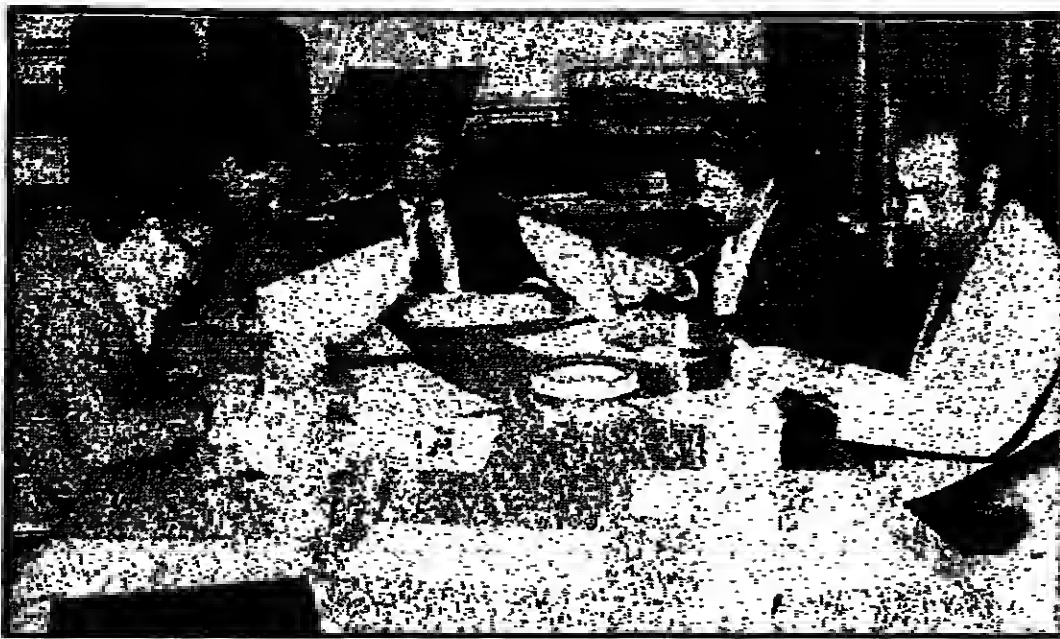
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Directorate has announced that the Ma'in hot springs area will be closed to tourists and visitors because a tourist project is currently under implementation there. Al Ra'i newspaper reported Monday.

The paper explained that visits will be banned because it would be difficult for people to reach the springs because of the works currently underway.

Surgeons association to hold conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Surgeons Association (JSA) will hold a conference at the Professional Association Complex next week to discuss 13 different topics which will be submitted to the conference. JSA President Abdul Aziz Al Bilhisi said in a press conference Monday.

Dr. Bilhisi said that 11 of the 13 research topics will be submitted by Jordanian doctors, and the other two by a Finnish and a British doctor. The conference will also discuss health insurance which has become essential in this age, he said.



Jordanian Surgeons Association President Abdul Aziz Al Bilhisi (centre) announces in a press conference Monday the date and agenda of the association's forthcoming conference (Petra photo)

Student abroad invents board game

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian student at North Texas State University in the USA has invented a new board game which is selling quickly in the cities of Denton and Houston.

Radi Al Rashed, currently in his final undergraduate year, called the game "Two out of three". A test of wits, it involves a player trying to defeat an opponent in two out of three rounds which are

called "First Invader", "High Count" and "Low Count".

Al Rashed has already sold 330 copies of the game and wants to find a sponsor to enable him to market the game nationally. After that Al Rashed hopes to convert it into a video game.

Radi Al Rashed is married to an American and next year hopes to go on to study for a doctorate in international relations.



Radi Al Rashed

Heritage week exhibition opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian folklore exhibition, organised by the Jordanian Writers Society (JWS) in cooperation with the University of Jordan, was opened here Monday.

Artistic exhibits made out of cloth, copper, wood, mother of pearl, and gypsum representing the products of the East and West Banks will be on show during the seven-day exhibition. Books by Jordanian writers on folk history and photographs of national Jordanian dress will also be on show.

NCC approves draft customs law articles

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Consultative Council Monday discussed the 1982 draft customs law and approved 65 out of its 278 articles at its weekly session held under the chairmanship of NCC Speaker Suleiman Arar with cabinet ministers in attendance.

The articles approved include details on the functions of the customs department, the principles of applying the customs tariff, the classification of goods in terms of origin, type, value, and the rules governing import and export, land, maritime and air transport and customs clearance procedures.

necessary measures to apply the new traffic law.

The NCC also referred to the economic committee a proposal from several NCC members regarding the formation of a technical committee to study the problems of national industries, the complaints of the owners of these industries and ways of tackling them.

The NCC also heard a report from the public services and utilities committee on the services required in Al Azraq area, and decided to postpone discussion of the report until the next session so that the NCC members could have time to study it.



The Jordanian folklore exhibition which opened in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Women's art exhibition asserts female creativity

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With three exhibitions featuring their work opening in Amman this week, this has certainly been the week of Jordanian (and those with strong connections to the country) women and children. As you would expect from these fine sectors of society (speaking from a completely unbiased viewpoint) the shows are lively, thoughtful, valid (all the work without exception looked and felt as if it had been done for the love of it) and extremely interesting in the best sense of the word.

Although cramped into a very poor and miserable exhibition space at the Amman Hotel, the Creative Women of Jordan exhibition still looked good. Fine female talent shone out from every nook and cranny. From Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid there was a recent portrait painted in her remarkably oriental yet strongly individual style. Here the large eyes dominate the face catching a sadness that lies deep and hidden, while subtle details beautifully painted in colours that only an artist of her experience could conceive tell us of the more obvious facets of her sister's character. Other good figurative work comes from Ufemia Rizk, Munira Ton-

kan, Diana Shamounki, Da'ad Tell, Muna Saoudi and Laura Bilbasi, while exceptionally fine abstract work comes from Hind Sherif Nasser, Suha Shuman and Princess Wijdan Alia. A string of names...meaningless perhaps without some description, but their work is so interesting that a brief comment about each would not do them the justice they deserve. Suffice to say that it is a genuine pleasure to see so many women artists in Jordan producing such exciting and stimulating art despite a serious lack of encouragement and in the face of so much criticism.

ART REVIEW

Ivy Nasir, whose exhibition of oil paintings and coloured pencil drawings (which represents incidentally only a small proportion of her work, much of which is carried out in pen and ink) has been on show at the Amra Hotel, is another fine female talent which has just emerged from the crystal ball where it has lain dormant during the years of being a wife and mother. This present body of work is in fact an enormous improvement on the paintings and drawings she exhibited two years ago, shortly after she had returned to painting.

at the American Centre. Mrs. Nasir has now really come into her own—her Jordanian landscapes are refreshing and often delightful like "White Horse in the Rain" for example. Here the light pours through a crack in the sky to touch the horse's face and withers with a radiance, in a palette of soft and muted colours that she uses throughout her work. Well crafted her work gains in richness the more spontaneous it becomes.

Mrs. Nasir also displayed, her very personal dream series through which she has created some evocative and intense imagery as well as the beautifully colourful and carefully drawn still lifes of Palestinian costume and jewelry. "Alia: Jordan's Bridge to the World" was the theme set for a children's art competition by Alia Public Relations last November and 62 of the 280 entries received from across Jordan have recently been exhibited at the Alia Art Gallery. Well mounted and professionally labelled in English and Arabic, the small brightly coloured pictures make a delightful display often making you laugh outright at some of the weird and wonderful images these children aged six to 14 have created. Fourteen-year-old Nidal Ibrahim Abu Daia from Al Noza prep, was declared the outright winner by judges Hind Sherif Nasser, Samia

Zarou, Yaser Duwiek and Farouk Lambaz, on account of the outstanding talent this young artist already possesses. With great technical ability Nidal depicted a bridge, its arches spanning the whirling cloud filled sky connecting a map of Jordan to a globe, and what was this picture the first prize was surely the dynamic sense of movement he managed to convey in soft and careful colours.

The second prize of a child and one adult fare to Athens (first prize is a trip for child and one parent to Vienna and third a free flight to Aqaba and back, while all 62 entries received an Alia flight bag and tee-shirt) went to nine-year-old Alai Elais Akasch of Terra Santa College. Chosen because of its spontaneity and honesty (one of the criteria of selection was that it must be the child's own work and ideas, that is there must be little evidence of adult help) the bright bold colours make this little painting tremendously attractive and gay.

Malik Baha Saket (six) from the National Orthodox School took third prize for the tiny little drawings of camels and oil wells, skyscrapers and windmills with which he filled his paper.

Totally unpretentious, often clever and humorous, children's art exhibitions are always a real pleasure to attend.



Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd

Text for expatriate recruiting

THE JORDAN Phosphate Mines Co. is a large rock phosphate producer in Jordan employing about 4,000 people at Rusafa, El Hassa and El Abyad Mines. Mining excavations involve shovel/truck and dragline operations. The following challenging positions are available for the operation and maintenance of a 10 million BCM per year dragline plant at El Hassa Mines 135 km south of Amman:

1. DRAGLINE OPERATION MANAGER

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mining engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 10 years experience in open pit mining or large earth-moving operations, several years of which spent in walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for continuous operation and maintenance of a dragline plant consisting of a 41 cu yd and 31.3 ft boom electric walking dragline, two D9 bulldozers, two 45-R blasthole drills, Anfo truck, two cranes, complete maintenance workshop and 33/6.6 KV Power Distribution System. Manage a work force of about 70 consisting of local and expatriate labour. Perform all necessary planning, scheduling, budgeting, etc. Report to El Hassa Mine Manager for instructions and coordination.

2. DRAGLINE MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mechanical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience on maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and mechanical availability of dragline plant machinery listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all mechanical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely requisitions of all mechanical spares and maintenance supplies.

3. DRAGLINE ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in electrical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience in electrical maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with electrical dragline or large electric shovel operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and electrical availability of dragline plant equipment listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all electrical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely orders of electrical spares and maintenance supplies.

4. Two Mechanical Maintenance Supervisors
5. Electrical Maintenance Supervisor
6. Drilling and Blasting Foreman
7. Welding Supervisor
8. Three 1st-class Dragline Maintenance Electricians
9. Electronic and Instrument Technician
10. Three Dragline Operators
11. Two 1st-class Welders with certificates
12. Two 1st-class Fitters for dragline maintenance.

Conditions of employment: Employment is normally by 1-year contract renewable annually. Salaries are negotiable and paid free of tax.

Benefits include 30 days annual leave, return air fares to place of recruitment are paid to the employee, his wife and children up to 18 years of age at the end of each 12-month period of service. Unused annual leave is carried forward. Rent-free housing is available at El-Hassa town site. Company's health scheme and the national pension insurance will apply to all expatriate employees. Employment is scheduled to start in May 1983 but not later than August 1983.

Applications providing full details of qualifications, experience, marital status and other personal data, together with a passport size photo, names and dates of birth of family members, contact phone number and address should be forwarded by air mail to:

Managing Director
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.
Post Office Box 30
Amman - Jordan

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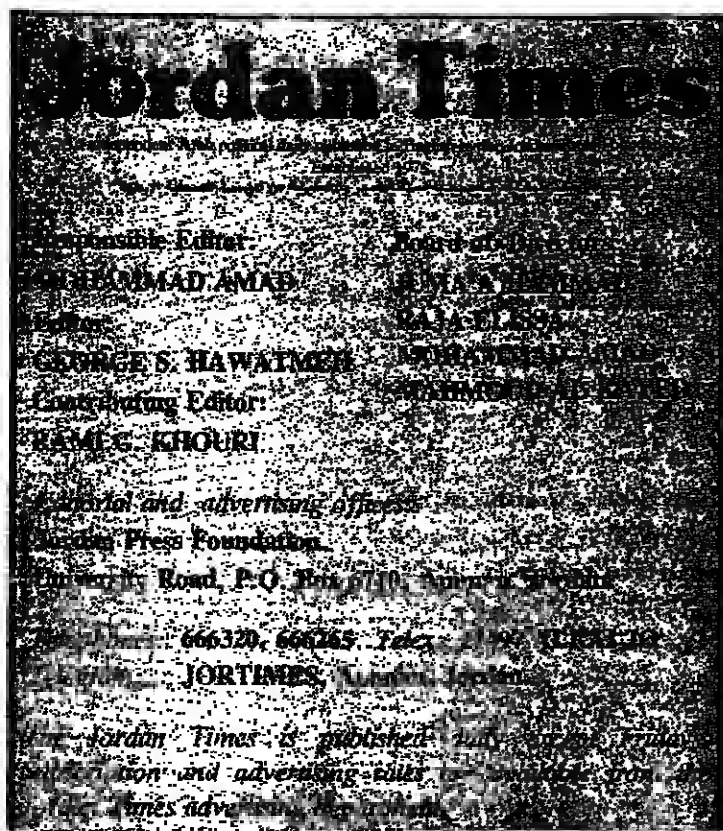
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Accord for the future

RESULTS of several days of intensive and serious talks here between His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat may have crystallised already but indications are that their full impact on the current search for peace in the Middle East will not be known for sometime yet. Until now, only a few know what these results are. But reports suggesting that Jordan and the PLO have reached accord on pursuing joint political moves within the Arab consensus, not closing the door on the Reagan or any other peace plan, seem to be credible and the closest to reality.

If it indeed exists, such Jordanian-Palestinian accord would not only be highly significant but also would represent a logical conclusion to wide-ranging and, consequently, complicated discussions whose scope might have been very difficult to imagine before.

The significance of any step taken jointly by Jordan and the PLO at this critical stage can hardly be doubted. The logic behind Jordanians and Palestinians joining hands with the rest of the Arab World on questions of destiny is impeccable, given the enormity of the Israeli challenge and the dangers posed by the Zionist expansion as well the inability or unwillingness of friends and others alike to help us defend and regain Arab rights.

We must admit that there still exists a possibility, even danger, of losing sight of the real issue if the Arabs, as a whole, will not act swiftly to find the right mechanism for closely coordinated moves on the Palestine problem. Any Jordanian-Palestinian accord under the Arab umbrella therefore will gain strength only if its objectives and clauses are clear and realistic as well as dynamic.

There are very good reasons to believe that after their intensive and indeed crucial discussions here the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships have gone a long way towards taking a giant step to liberate the occupied land and our people living on it. We remain optimistic and hopeful that after understanding there will come achievements, and we are almost sure that this is precisely what is going to happen.

Let the world have no doubt that Arabs are sincere and serious. Palestinian rights are not negotiable, but we are all committed to a just and honourable Middle East settlement.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Poisoning: A premeditated act

THE Zionist mass media insist on considering the hundreds of schoolgirls overcome by poison in the West Bank as victims of a mysterious epidemic. The Israeli campaign is aimed at covering up for its direct responsibility for this despicable crime, scarcely precedented in human history.

The appearance of hundreds of new cases in Hebron, Tulkarm and Anabta, in succession to Jenin, exposes this premeditated crime, engineered and carried out by the Israeli authorities. The consequent occurrence of poison cases in such great numbers demonstrates that the Zionists are working to a programme, selecting Palestinian cities and towns one after the other in an attempt to create a state of panic on the one hand, and to sterilise the greatest number possible of young Palestinian school girls on the other. The Zionist-orientated style in dealing with the Arabs in the occupied territories has no parallel except in some practices used by the Nazis. The Israeli authorities consider the residents of the occupied territories an obstacle impeding their demographic plans and annexationist schemes. They would do everything in their power to reduce the number of Arabs living in the occupied territories to make a majority out of the Jewish minority.

Those who have been following the actions of the criminally-minded Zionist leadership of Israel and their movement's history certainly recognised this new act at once as no natural disease but a premeditated criminal act.

Al Dustour: Arab World must follow up

ISRAEL seems to have made a decision to launch a new offensive against the Palestinians in the Bekaa Valley. Five armoured divisions have been concentrated in nearby positions as Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat pointed out Sunday. The new aggression will help the Zionists cover up for their daily acts of aggression against the Palestinian people and the Islamic holy places.

The urgent messages sent by the PLO Executive Committee to several Arab and world leaders urging them to carry out their human and international responsibilities must be supplemented by a follow-up effort to see effective measures undertaken by the organisations these leaders represent.

Israeli brutality is manifesting itself day after day in various forms. After the Deir Yassin, Kufi Kasim and Sabra and Shatilla massacres, Israel is resorting to a new technique to drive Palestinian Arabs out of their homes. Schoolgirls are being intentionally sterilised by poison, and a state of panic has been created by Israel's daily crimes.

Nonetheless, it is the Arabs and Muslims who must firstly carry out their responsibilities in the face of continued Israeli acts of aggression, and, unless something serious is done by these two groups, it is absurd to ask the international community in essence to be more Arab than the Arabs themselves. The Zionist millstone that is crushing the Palestinian people at the moment, will never show any mercy if turned towards other Arab states.

Sawt Al Shaab: Time on Israel's side

THE accelerating campaign of terror, repression and violence systematically carried out by the Begin government against Arab masses in the West Bank and Gaza needs a more elaborate and serious study of its aims by Arabs.

The siege of Arab universities in the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities, the restrictions against academic institutes and personnel, the assaults against mosques, and the use of poison gas against schoolgirls are all symptoms of the same disease the Zionist suffer from. It is obvious that such increased pressure on the Palestinians cannot be divorced from the settlement and annexation policies. The main target is to create an unbearable situation in the occupied territories, leaving the people of the land no other alternative but to save their skins by "voluntarily" abandoning their homes.

The sand is deep, and the neck long

By Rami G. Khouri

Let us examine more closely the statement made several days ago by United States President Ronald "Viability is My Middle Name" Reagan, in which he reaffirmed that he would not release the delivery of 75 F-16 aircraft to Israel while Israel continued to occupy Lebanese territory. On the surface of it, this appears to be a refreshing show of American decisiveness and assertiveness in dealing with Israel, and a rare display of American willingness to use political force and material sanctions to bring Israel into line. In fact, the truth is rather less dramatic. Consider, if you would, the following points:

1) The original decision to delay the formal notification to Congress of the president's intention to sell the planes to Israel was made last summer, immediately after Israel invaded and destroyed large parts of Lebanon. Mr. Reagan's statement last week simply continued an existing policy.

2) The 75 F-16s originally had been scheduled to be delivered to Israel in 1984 and 1985. Holding

up formal notification to Congress of the intent to sell the planes to Israel at a time between one and two years ahead of scheduled delivery dates can have little more than poetic significance to current matters in the area.

3) In any case, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said on April 1 that the issue is not whether Israel will get the planes, but only when it will get them. He added that the president's delay in notifying Congress of the planes sale is not inconsistent with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's position that pressures and threats against Israel are not the best way to bring about peace in the Middle East. In other words, Mr. Reagan's action is in the realm of the symbolic, at best.

4) Mr. Romberg also stressed "the president was not stating that he was making a determination of ineligibility under U.S. law" for the transfer of the planes to Israel. He added that the Reagan administration, as required by law, had sent to Congress last July a report

that "substantial violations" may have occurred in the use of American arms in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He also added that no violation had been determined. Yet, Mr. Reagan, in his remarks last week, said he was holding up the planes sale because "you must realise that under the law — the law exists now — those weapons must be for defensive purposes... we are in the position of occupying another country that now has asked them to leave..." Mr. Romberg added that the delay in sending the planes in within "the spirit" of American law on such arms sales.

If we take all of these statements and try to make sense of them, we must conclude that Mr. Reagan has not determined that Israel has violated American laws by using American arms in an offensive invasion of Lebanon, that the F-16s will be delivered to Israel in due course and that America will not use pressure to influence Israeli policy. The present incident, therefore, is more or less a display of meaningless lip service to the

"spirit" of American laws. Sounds to me more like homage to the ghost of American equanimity.

5) Mr. Romberg also said that the decision three weeks ago to sell Israel a new batch of 200 Sidewinder air-to-air missiles was "a question of judgement", with the Reagan administration having decided that these were "defensive" weapons that could be sent to Israel. How peculiar. All those "defensive" missiles were used in dogfights with Arab planes over Syria and Lebanon, in support of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon that was offensive enough, we are told, to jar the spirit of American laws. If this is what the United States calls "defensive" use of weaponry, we behold the nation that bears the brunt of American weaponry used in an offensive manner. It seems to me that either Mr. Romberg has been asked to make a public fool of himself, in the service of his country and the tradition of American intellectual incoherence and emotional brutality in the Middle East, or the Reagan administration has

singlehandedly reversed the tradition of several thousand years of Western thought and ethics by which rational societies have made rational judgements on the concepts of offense and defense. In this context, one asks Mr. Reagan: Are the linemen blocking for John Riggins defensive in nature?

6) The sum total of all these points, in my mind, points to a continuation of the well established American policy of evading responsibility for Israel's use of American arms, money and political support in the Middle East. Mr. Reagan, like his predecessors, dances around the core problem of Palestinian-Israeli-American relations and decides, true to American presidential form, to stick his head into the sand. Why has Mr. Reagan not yet determined if Israel has used American weapons offensively in Lebanon and is therefore ineligible for further arms sales? He is so fast to determine ineligibility in the case of Soviet or Polish or Libyan or Iraqi requests for American arms or other technology. Mr. Reagan

is scared of something, and his actions and words this week are those of a man who is afraid to deal with the realities of this world. How can he ask Arab leaders to be decisive and bold while he is a model of indecision, hesitation and professional fence-sitting? Mr. Reagan should be bold, and strike a blow for freedom, instead of just talking about it and making symbolic gestures whose hollowness is aggravated by the explanatory rhetoric of an administration that still applies the Politics of the Ost- rich to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

By enforcing American laws on the use of American arms abroad in a non-defensive manner, Mr. Reagan could make an enormous contribution to restoring his country's credibility and stature in the entire world. He seems instead to have chosen the same old American path of make-believe, self-delusion and retreat from reality. It is an extraordinary shame — for the American people as well as for the rest of us who are at the receiving end of America's theatre arts.



Israel uses Ottoman land code of 1859 to justify the occupation of West Bank land

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli and Arab experts believe it is only a matter of time before two thirds of the land on the Israeli-occupied West Bank is owned by Jews.

According to Meron Benvenisti, a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem who now heads a team studying the occupation, Israel has already seized 465,000 acres (189,000 hectares) of West Bank land, about 32 per cent of the total. Most has been used to build Jewish settlements.

Elias Khouri, a Palestinian lawyer who has frequently represented Arab villagers in legal actions against Israeli land seizures, said the authorities had developed a new method of se-

izing land which was very difficult to fight. "They are relying on an obsolete law passed by the Ottoman empire in 1859 which by some historical accident was never repealed on the West Bank," he said.

"When they declare that pieces of land are state-owned, the Arab villagers who cultivate them have three weeks to appeal against the decision. The problem is that 70 per cent of West Bank land was never properly registered in ownership records," he added.

The Ottoman land code of 1859 states: "Empty land such as mountains, rocky land, boulders and meadows that are not owned by anybody and are not intended for use by a village or town, or are situated at a distance so that the voice of a man cannot be heard from the nearest village, are dead

lands." It goes on: "Any man that needs this land can with the necessary authority work it, but complete ownership remains with the sultan." Mr. Benvenisti, who belongs to the left wing of the main opposition Labour Party, said the Israelis had conducted detailed surveys of the West Bank including aerial photographs to pinpoint land which might fall into this category.

He estimated that an additional 425,000 acres (172,000 hectares) could be classified as "dead lands" under the Ottoman code, a further 29 per cent of the total.

State lands

Officials guiding American Jews on tours of the West Bank always stress that the settlements are built on state lands which were

never legally owned by local Palestinians. But Mr. Khouri said some of the land being taken over had been tilled by Palestinian villagers for generations.

"They sometimes possess old Turkish documents but these rarely define the boundaries of the land. Such a document might say 'all the land between the tall tree and the narrow winding path belongs to the Muhammad family.' How do I prove to an Israeli court which tree and which path?" he said.

Since the Israelis captured the West Bank from Jordan in the 1967 six-day war, they have used security as the justification for taking over land. Most of the first Jewish settlements were built on private Arab land expropriated from its owners, and many Israeli settlements started as army camps

before later being handed over to civilians.

The Israeli settlement of Kiryat Arba, overlooking the Arab town of Hebron, began as an army base on expropriated Arab land. About 4,000 Israeli civilians live there today.

The theory that Israeli settlements in themselves contribute to security was successfully challenged in two Israeli supreme court cases in 1978 and 1979. In the latter case, the court ordered the government to move the newly-founded Eilon Moreh settlement near Nablus from expropriated land to state land and return the expropriated area to its Arab owners.

The court said the desire to establish a Jewish settlement did not in itself justify seizing private land. Mr. Khouri said the decision put in doubt the legal status of all settlements founded on expropriated land. "It was clear from the court's decision that settlements established in this way were only legal as long as the Israeli military government rules the area. If the status of the region changes, these settlements will no longer have

any right to remain under Israeli law," he said.

Opposition Knesset (parliament) member Amnon Rubinstein, a law professor from Tel Aviv University, believes the legal status of the settlements under international law is highly questionable. "Article 49 of the Geneva Convention, which governs the behaviour of an occupying power, states that such a power must not grant members of its civilian population any part of the territory being occupied," he said.

Israel is a signatory to the convention and its military government on the West Bank derives its authority from international law, Mr. Rubinstein added. "It has the right to seize land for security purposes but not to build permanent civilian communities," he said. Mr. Khouri said Israel was employing "gross double standards" by basing its actions on Ottoman law.

"Israel repealed all Ottoman laws still in force in its territory in 1979. Israel is proud to think of itself as a land of law and of fair legal practice," he said. "These tactics show up that boast for what it is."

Algerian efforts revive 25-year-old dream of North African unity

By Marc Dettell
Reuter

TUNIS — New Algerian efforts to improve relations with neighbouring Tunisia and Morocco have revived a 25-year-old dream of North African unity, but the Western Sahara conflict remains the chief obstacle.

The idea of a united "Maghreb" — the western end of the Arab World as opposed to the eastern "Mashreq" — was born at a meeting of nationalist movements in 1958, when Morocco and Tunisia had just won independence from France and the Algerians were still fighting French colonial rule. Unity failed to materialise because of political differences.

But new life has been injected into the idea over the past several weeks by meetings between Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, King Hassan of Morocco and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. Despite these promising signs, Arab diplomats expect no concrete steps towards a regional structure in the Maghreb until the Western Sahara conflict is resolved.

Algeria and Morocco have been at odds for more than seven years

over the former Spanish colony, where Algerian-based Polisario guerrillas are fighting to end Moroccan control.

The guerrillas, who are also funded and armed by Libya, proclaimed a "Saharan Arab Democratic Republic" (SADR) in 1976. Most African countries have recognised it. But Morocco, backed by a powerful minority in the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), regards the Western Sahara as its own.

Surprise talks between President Benjedid and King Hassan on Feb. 26 resulted in agreement to restore relations, severed after Algeria recognised the SADR in 1976. There was no sign of how they planned to solve the Western Sahara issue, with Algeria insisting on, and Rabat rejecting, direct talks between Morocco and the guerrillas.

But there were hints three weeks later from Algerian leaders, who signed a 20-year "treaty of fraternity and concord" with Tunisia, that Algeria may be looking to the Maghreb as the framework for a solution.

The OAU called in 1981 for an internationally-supervised self-determination referendum in the

phosphate-rich Western Sahara. Morocco says it is confident of winning such a vote.

Lashing solution

But President Benjedid said in Tunis last week, without elaborating, that the Western Sahara issue could be solved in an international or perhaps in a Maghreb framework. Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibruhimi said Algeria and Tunisia should help King Hassan and the Polisario find a just and lasting solution to the problem. The treaty between Algeria and Tunisia, coinciding with the cautious normalisation of Algerian-Moroccan relations, crowned an Algerian-initiated rapprochement.

Although it is open to signature later by other Maghreb states, diplomatic sources discounted Moroccan participation as long as the Western Sahara problem persisted. Algeria and Morocco signed a similar treaty in 1969 but it has never been implemented.

The sources saw the Algerian-Tunisian treaty as directed mainly against Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi and said it increased his

isolation in the region. Diplomatic sources said this was probably behind Colonel Qaddafi's recent decision to conclude a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union.

Tunisian officials were clearly satisfied with the Algerian commitment, implicit under the new treaty, not to permit any new Libyan moves to destabilise Tunisia. Among its provisions is an undertaking by each party not to allow groups hostile to the other to operate on its territory. Tunisia fears infiltration through Algeria of Tunisian opposition groups trained in Libya, following two incursions in the past three years.

But some officials expressed concern privately that the treaty would protect Tunisia's independence against alleged Libyan aims at the cost of greater dependence on Algeria.

Arab diplomats regarded last month's Benjedid-Hassan meetings as a conference between the two main regional powers to discuss the Maghreb's fate without giving to say to other interested parties, such as Tunisia, Libya and the Polisario guerrillas.

LETTERS

Leave private affairs alone

To the Editor:

Criticism is always of benefit when it is constructive and serves a good purpose, especially when it is based on facts and first-hand information.

Randa Habib's columns were always of interest to me. But I was surprised when I read her article "The Big Spend" (Jordan Times March 28) which she based on information from a gathering of gossipers. I wondered how this group came to know such specific details, as the amount of money spent by a certain mother and her daughter who had just got engaged on their gifts, as well as other small details that only the concerned ones know about.

Does not Miss Habib think that it would have been more useful if this group met to promote something more cultural and beneficial to the country, rather than gather to discuss peoples' private affairs?

Besides, every person has their right to their own way of life and spending is a private affair, as long as it does not harm other people.

There is a question to which I would like an answer: what is the purpose of this article? And what services does it do to guide the reader, and the community?

S.F.M.,
Amman

سورة الفاتحة

Palestinians cannot now build on one-third of West Bank land

Carter 'shocked' at West Bank restrictions

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — On his recent visit to Israel, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter made plain his shock at discovering that Palestinians are banned from building homes in large areas of the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Carter told Arab dignitaries at a reception in Bethlehem town hall that he had been shown a map of the area with a few tiny red dots showing where Arabs are allowed to build. He later told reporters he had been unaware of the restrictions and that they ought to be more widely known.

Israeli Deputy Agriculture Minister Michal Dekel, who coordinates the Israeli West Bank settlement drive, recently explained his country's policy in an interview with Reuters. "It is very simple," he said. "The state of Israel will not give (state) land for the Arabs

to build on."

According to official figures, about one third of all West Bank land has already been declared state land and taken over by the Israelis.

The Israeli Peace Now Movement, which opposes Jewish West Bank settlements, said last month it had received information from senior army officers that settlers were setting up "vigilante teams" to prevent Arabs from building on "state land."

Settlers deny the report, but in the Hebron area a number of them recently demolished a half-built Arab house and uprooted four electricity pylons leading to Arab dwellings. When the Arab municipality put them up again, the settlers returned and demolished them a second and then a third time. They said the area was Israeli state land reserved for the future expansion of the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba and Arabs had no right to build there.

Meror Benvenisti, a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem who now heads a team studying the occupation, said Israeli West Bank local authorities controlled large tracts of land which had been de facto annexed to Israel.

Wide powers

"These authorities are islands of Israel in the occupied territories. They have wide powers than local authorities in Israel because, being in occupied territory, they are not subject to political supervision by Israeli civilian authorities," said Mr. Benvenisti, who belongs to the left wing of the main opposition Labour Party.

The first three Israeli local authorities were established on the West Bank by military orders in March 1979. Since then five more have been added. The councils have the right to prepare voting registers, hold local elections, establish municipal courts, collect taxes and grant or deny building

permission to local residents. The military orders also defined the legal boundaries of each council, which go far beyond the limits of the Israeli settlements.

For example, the Ma'ale Adumim local council east of Jerusalem rules an area of 8,500 acres (3,500 hectares), according to official figures. The actual settlement of Ma'ale Adumim takes up only 3,500 acres (1,400 hectares). The rest of the land is empty but Arabs cannot use it without the permission of the Jewish local council.

Settlers are anxious to limit Arab building because they fear it will be more difficult to take over West Bank land where local Palestinians have built houses and are living. Palestinians are effectively restricted to buying and selling among themselves the land they already own. There is no way for them to build on empty state lands.

Dany Rubinstein, West Bank correspondent for the Labour

Federation's Davar newspaper, wrote in a recent article: "In order to bring about the practical annexation of the West Bank, it is not enough to encourage the growth of settlements. It is more important to block and limit expansion, construction and development by the Arabs."

Israeli occupation officials say the Arabs are well aware of this and have responded by initiating what one called "feverish building boom to create facts on the ground." Much of this building activity is financed by money sent from oil-rich Arab states such as Saudi Arabia. In Hebron, the Saudis are financing the construction of a big mosque on the outskirts of Kiryat Arba which has effectively blocked expansion of the Jewish suburb in one direction.

In the race for the land, the Israelis have one major disadvantage. The expansion of their settlements is limited by the number of people willing to live in

them. Although increasing numbers of Israelis are attracted by new West Bank communities being built within easy commuting distance of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the number willing to live in more remote areas of the West Bank is very small.

One device used by the authorities is to declare an area a "nature reserve". All Arab construction there is then forbidden in the hope that enough Israelis will later become available to build a settlement. The transparency of this pretence was shown recently when the authorities gave planning permission to build a settlement called Nofim in the middle of an area of genuine natural beauty.

The nature protection society protested against the decision, which it said would destroy an attractive rocky valley with streams and waterfalls, the home of abundant wildlife. Its protests were to no avail.



Ex-President Carter: Unaware of restrictions

Reagan's missile reduction offer a sign of compromise

By David Nāgy
Reuter

WASHINGTON — With his new offer on European missile reductions, President Reagan has demonstrated the blend of tough words and compromise he has adopted in pursuit of goals both at home and abroad.

Many moderate Republicans see the change in approach as a basis for predicting that he will seek reelection in 1984. In recent months, Mr. Reagan has increasingly followed the course of attacking his opponents with heated rhetoric and then meeting them part way on key economic and defence disputes.

The more conciliatory strategy, Reagan aides say, is a practical response to losses suffered in last year's congressional elections, stubbornly high unemployment rates and a rising popular clamour for an end to the arms race. Coupled with sharp improvements in nearly every U.S. economic trend except joblessness, the more flexible approach seems to have restored confidence to White House advisers and Republican party leaders who were reeling under political setbacks only two months ago.

"We now have a combination of bipartisan cooperation and confrontation" in White House dealings with Congress, said one senior administration official. "And, primarily because of the economic upturn, we're in much better shape now than after last November's elections."

Mr. Reagan's Republicans lost 26 seats to the Democrats in the House of Representatives. This wrecked the coalition of loyal Republicans and right-wing Democrats that had met his demands for record defence spending increases, tax reductions and steep cuts in domestic social programmes.

At first, the president tried to

keep fighting. He ran into unrelenting opposition on such issues as pressure for an emergency jobs bill and a bailing plan for the MX missile. The president's decision to change tack, at least in some cases, has relieved moderate Republicans in the White House and Congress — and one sign was the prediction that he would seek another term.

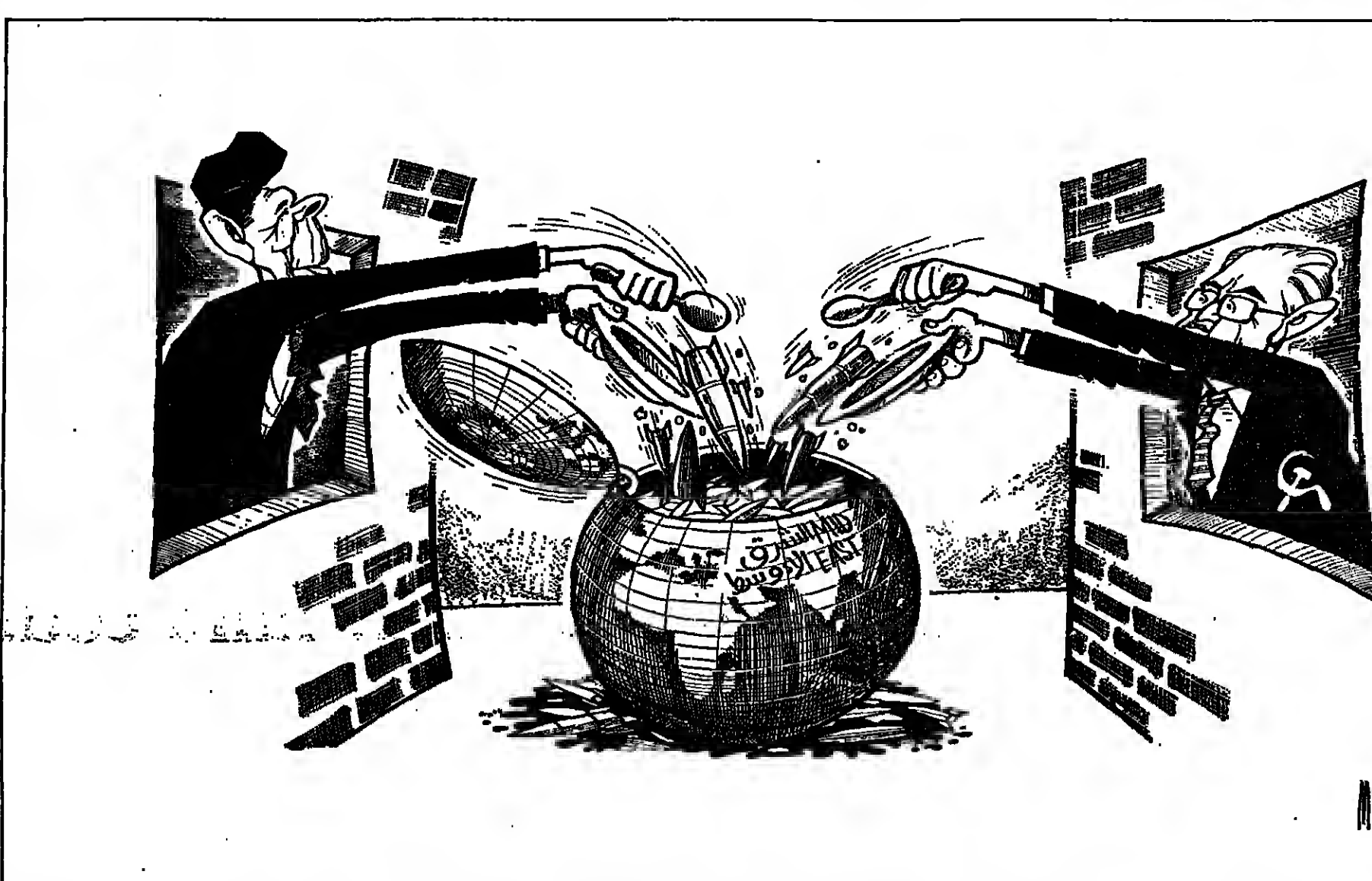
"I think he'll let people know privately before Labour Day (Sept. 5) that he's decided to run," said one well-informed Republican strategist who until recently had been more cautious. "Then I think he'll formally announce around Labour Day. You can't wait much longer than that."

Making deals

The new presidential style of talking tough but making deals has returned Mr. Reagan to the pragmatic politics he practised as governor of California, when he often compromised with the liberal Democratic-controlled state legislature.

The latest example of how he is applying this approach to the presidency was the interim missile proposal unveiled recently. Under this, the U.S. would scale back its scheduled deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Europe in return for equal cuts in comparable Soviet missile warheads. Mr. Reagan had been resisting pressure to take such a step for weeks. In seeking an unabated U.S. defence buildup, he had depicted the Soviet Union as "an evil empire" with which compromise on vital security issues would be dangerous folly.

Yet in announcing the compromise missile offer, he adopted the same argument Western European leaders had made all along in urging him to moderate his "zero option" demand. "When it comes to intermediate nuclear missiles in Europe," he said, "it would be better to have none than



to have some. But if there must be some, it is better to have few than many."

Since late December, there have been many such instances of Mr. Reagan offering compromise under fire.

— Congressional approval of a

plan to rescue the nearly bankrupt social security pension system, one of the country's most volatile political issues. The compromise was achieved by a bipartisan commission appointed by Mr. Reagan and included a tax-increase provision he had once

opposed.

— A \$4.6 billion emergency jobs bill, approved with Mr. Reagan's blessing even though he had long condemned such government-financed programmes.

— A decision to withdraw a

claim of "executive privilege" and give Congress all the documents it sought in investigating alleged scandal in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Aides stress there are limits to Mr. Reagan's flexibility and insist he will not yield on vital matters of

principle, such as vastly increased military spending and lowered taxes.

A major test will come soon when Congress resumes work on a Democratic-backed 1984 federal budget proposal that would trim much of the proposed defence hui-

ldup and raise taxes. Although even Senate Republican leaders say Mr. Reagan will have to accept less than the 10-per-cent defence increase he wants, he insists this is the absolute minimum required. "That fight is not over," said one White House adviser.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30	Korea
17:35	Cartoons
18:10	Heidi
18:20	Documentary
18:30	Local Programme
19:10	Programme on Sports
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:00	Local Programme
21:30	Arabic Series
22:00	News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Movie of the Week: The Curse of the Werewolf
21:00	News in English
22:00	Dallas: The Evening Touch

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHZ, AM & 99 MHz, FM & parity on 9560 KHZ, SW

07:30	Morning Show
08:00	News Summary
08:30	Morning Show
09:00	News Summary
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session
11:00	News Bulletin
11:30	News in English
12:00	Instrumentals
12:30	In Concert
13:00	Current Hour
13:30	News Summary
14:00	Instrumentals, Old Favorites
14:30	Science Report
15:00	News Summary
15:30	Top Twenty
16:00	News Summary
16:30	News with a Star
17:00	Evening Show
17:30	News Summary
18:00	Evening Show
18:30	News Summary
19:00	News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHZ

0600 Newsday 0630 The Broadsheet of News 0645 Saturday 0655 Ref: 0650 World News 0700 24

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

CONCERT

"The Lungenhagen Symphonic Brass Orchestra performs at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

FILM

"La Honte" starring Jean Gabin, at the French Cultural Centre.

EXHIBITION

"Acrylics and Gouaches" by Nicole Maslin at the French Cultural Centre.

"These exhibitions are on at the Royal Cultural Centre from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

— Jagged and the European Communities.

— Treasures of Astronomy.

— Our men and buildings.

— Images de L'Art Français.

— Leonardo's Working Models.

VIDEO

"CBS Evening News at the American Centre at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

American Centre	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44203
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777
Hays Arts Centre	665195
Hebrew Youth City	667181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.C.A.	664251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also movies from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Cliffed Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries. A collection of paintings by 10th Century orientalist artists. Museum, Jabal Luvash. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luvash, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hamein, 661757.

Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.

Anglican Church (Anglican of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 43453.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75561.

St. Nicholas Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.

Amman International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisil, 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

03:54	Fajr
05:18	(Sunrise) Shuruq
11:39	Dhuhr
15:13	'Asr
18:00	Maghrib
19:24	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa Information department at Amman Airport at 92205-4, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45	Cairo (EA)
08:25	Agaba (RU)
08:45	Cairo (RU)
09:15	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RU)
09:30	Jeddah (RU)
09:40	Ohadran (RU)
09:45	Kuwait (RU)
09:55	Kuwait (TU)
10:15	Ohadran, Riyadh (SV)
10:30	Cairo (EA)
10:40	Kuwait (KAC)
10:45	Bucharest, Istanbul (RU)
10:50	Larnaca (RU)
10:55	Cairo (RU)
11:00	Frankfurt, Geneva (LF)
11:05	New York, Vienna (RU)
11:10	London, Paris (RU)
11:15	Madrid, Tripoli (RU)
11:20	Rome (Alitalia)
11:25	Cairo (RU)
11:30	Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
11:35	Syrian Air
11:40	Frankfurt, Geneva (LF)
11:45	Beirut (MEA)
11:50	Damascus (RU)
11:55	Cairo (RU)
12:00	Baghdad (RU)
12:05	Cairo (EA)

DEPARTURES

06:45	Cairo (RU)
08:40	Damascus, Frankfurt (LF)
07:00	Agaba (RU)
07:40	Beirut, Paris (LF)
07:50	Cairo (EA)
08:40	Vienna, New York (RU)
08:45	Athens, Copenhagen (RU)
08:50	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
09:00	Cairo (EA)
09:05	Larnaca (RU)
09:10	Cairo (RU)
09:15	Kuwait (KAC)
09:20	Beirut (RU)
09:25	Kuwait (RU)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc	74.41
Omni guild	131.21
Egyptian pound	313
French franc	49.3
Irish dollar	528.11
Italian lire (for 100)	24.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	140.7
Kuwaiti dinar	1228.5
Lebanese lira	85.8
Omani rial	1036.7
Qatari riyal	98.1
Saudi riyal	104
Swedish crown	47.8
Swiss franc	172.1
Syrian lira	62.1
UAE dirham	97.5
U.S. dollar	358.5
W. German mark	147.8

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

An increase in temperature is expected. Winds will be light and variable changing to northwesterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Amman	8/21
Agaba	14/29
Deserts	9/25
Jordan Valley	12/28

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Agaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 42 per cent, Agaba 43 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance	193, 75111
Fire, fire, police	199
Blood bank	75121
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	22000-3
Police rescue	192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters	39141
Traffic police	56390-1
Electric Power Co.	36381-2
Municipal water service	71125-8

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre	813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman	44281-3
Al-Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity	42362
Malhas, J. Amman	36140
Palatine, Shmeisil	664171-4
Shmeisil Hospital	669131-7
University Hospital	645043
Or Al-Shifa, J. Husseini	667158
Al-Musasher Hospital	667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali	665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164
Islamic, Al-Muhajir	77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	75111
Army, Marka	91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Nafiz Al Khudari 56121-066631

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.	
Almond (Greek)	180/150
Almond (Syrian)	400/300
Apple (American)	500/450
Apple (Syrian Red)	300/250
Apple (Golden)	300/220
Apple (Turkish)	240/200
Apple (French)	500/450
Apple (Sturken)	300/250
Banana (Mukannamar)	270/220
Banana (local)	230/200
Beans	800/700
Beans (broad)	170/150
Beets	120/80
Cabbage	150/120
Carrot	130/100
Cauliflower (white)	140/120
Coconut	300/250
Cucumber (large)	220/180
Cucumber (small)	360/300
Eggplant (large)	260/200
Garlic	500/400
Grapefruit	130/100
Grape (white)	900/800
Grapes (black)	800/700
Lemon	180/150
Mandarin	300/250
Marrow (large)	220/180
Marrow (small)	340/300
Onion (red)	140/100
Onion (green)	180/150
Oranges	150/120
Oranges (Mandarin)	320/251
Oranges (shamouti)	250/200
Pears (local)	150/100
Pears (African)	400/300
Pears (Australian)	750/700
Peas	850/750
Pepper (Sweet)	150/100
Pepper (Hot Green)	1000/800
Tomatoes	850/750
Turnip	110/80
Watermelon (Indian)	350/300
Watermelon (Saudi)	250/200

SPORTS

Liverpool closes in on English league title

LONDON (R) — Liverpool overwhelmed Manchester City 4-0 to move another inexorable step closer to the English Soccer League title Monday.

Graeme Souness put them in front with a 25-yard (metre) drive into the top corner in the 34th minute and David Fairclough, deputising for Welsh striker Ian Rush, made it 2-0 on the stroke of half-time.

Defender Alan Kennedy, who scored in last month's 2-1 League Cup final win over Manchester United, added the third in the 83rd minute and Fairclough wrapped it up three minutes later.

Nearest challengers Watford trounced neighbours Luton 5-2 but still trail Liverpool by 16 points in a season which seems sure to bring the first division title to the Merseysiders a record 14th time.

England striker Luther Blissett scored twice, once from the penalty spot, and Richard Jobson, John Barnes and Nigel Callaghan netted the others as Watford notched their first home win over Luton since 1971.

Trevor Aylott and Brian Horton were the scorers for Luton who had Yugoslav midfielder Raddy Antic sent off as they stayed stuck one-from-bottom of the table, equal on points with bac-

markers Brighton who did not play Monday.

Tottenham Hotspur brought a little light to their bleak season by slamming arch-rivals Arsenal 5-0 to boost their chances of a place in Europe next season.

Few things please a Spurs fan more than a big win over their North London neighbours and the drubbing at White Hart Lane was the biggest in 73 years of derby games against their old foes.

Spurs were three up in only 18 minutes, running riot against one of football's normally least charitable defences. Ireland defender Chris Hughton and striker Mark Falco netted two apiece and Alan Brazil scored the fifth—his first for Spurs since his transfer from Ipswich last month.

The win lifted Tottenham to sixth in the table, putting the Londoners back in the hunt for a UEFA Cup place after a disappointing season marred by injuries.

Arsenal, last beaten 5-0 by Spurs in the 1911-12 season, will need to tighten up for their Football Association (F.A.) Cup semi-final against Manchester United in 12 days.

United dropped to third in the table after a goalless draw away to Sunderland. Former European champions Aston Villa moved

within a point of United with a 1-0 win over relegation-haunted Birmingham. Gary Shaw netted the winner — his 20th goal of the season — in the 83rd minute.

Liverpool's city neighbours Everton defeated fifth-placed Stoke 3-1 thanks to two goals by Kevin Sheedy and another by Graeme Sharp.

There was crowd trouble at the second division Lancashire derby between Blackburn and Burnley. Referee David Hutchinson took the teams off the field midway through the second half after Burnley fans got on to the roof of the stand and started hurling pieces of slate on to the pitch.

Blackburn goalkeeper Terry Genoe had earlier been hit by a bottle. A smoke grenade was thrown on to the pitch.

Burnley manager Frank Casper, with strong police protection, appealed for order. "The fans who are causing this trouble are a disgrace to Burnley Football Club and after today we don't want to see you," he said.

"This is the worst incident I have known in my long connection with Burnley and I am ashamed of you." Play was held up for 16 minutes and Burnley lost 2-1 to remain anchored at the foot of the second division table.

Finland's Vatanen wins Kenyan safari rally at 2nd attempt

NAIROBI (R) — Finland's Ari Vatanen, competing in the Kenyan Safari Motor Rally for the second time, came from behind to win the World Championship event Monday.

Driving an Opel Ascona 400, Vatanen surged into the lead overnight when three of the top four drivers dropped out because of mechanical trouble.

According to provisional results, the Audi Quattros of Hannu Mikkola and Frenchwoman Michele Mouton were second and third respectively in the cars' first appearance in the 5,000-km (3,100-mile) rally.

Vatanen, 31, competed in the rally for the first time in 1977 but failed to finish on a course which traditionally reduces the final field to about one-third of the starters.

After taking the chequered flag he admitted that breakdowns which forced the withdrawal of early leader Vic Preston of Kenya, in another Quattro, and compatriot Timo Salonen, in a Nissan

240 RS, contributed to his victory.

"Halfway through the final leg I thought we had no chance," Vatanen told reporters. "We were more than two hours behind the leaders but our position improved after last night's rest when Preston and Salonen were forced out. Suddenly we found ourselves in the lead."

Preston, who had led since the first leg, retired on the 22nd stage when he hit a boulder while driving fast through a cloud of dust and broke the suspension of his Audi Quattro.

Salonen then took the lead but had to pull out on the 31st stage when his once-repaired camshaft failed to hold up.

Another casualty of the tough overnight stage from Western Kenya was Rauno Aaltonen of Finland in a second Opel Ascona. He had to withdraw with a broken oil pump.

Mouton might have given Vatanen a harder race but for losing a wheel on the 25th stage of the

38-stage final leg which cost her 71 minutes.

Vatanen, a teetotaler, declined to drink the winners' champagne and even refused to allow it to be sprayed over him. Instead, he invited five Finnish children waving the country's blue and white flag to sit on the bonnet of his dust-caked car to pose for a victory photograph.

Mouton, who was taking part in the event for the first time and promised to come back next year, said: "The safari rally is very special."

"It is not more difficult than other rallies but very different because of the tough conditions. You can't drive flat out or you will break your car. You have to try to hang on to the finish," she said.

It was a rally of upsets in which local hero Shekhar Mehta, who has won the event a record five times including the last four years, was forced out in his Datsun 240 RS in the first leg.

Widzew Lodz chases further success in European Cup

LONDON (R) — It says a lot for the character of Widzew Lodz that they have shrugged off the transfer of two of their best players, Zbigniew Boniek and Wladyslaw Zmuda, to make their mark against the cream of Europe's soccer clubs this season.

That character is likely to be given its sternest examination so far on Wednesday when the unfashionable Poles continue their bid to become the first East European team to lift the Champions' Cup.

Widzew, conquerors of three-times winners Liverpool in the quarter-finals, meet star-studded Juventus in the away leg of their semifinal, while Spain's Real Sociedad play host to Hamburg of West Germany in the other semifinal.

Few people outside Poland would bet on Widzew continuing their success story against a side

hoasting six Italian internationals, stylish Frenchman Michel Platini and hotshot Boniek.

The quarter-final demise of defending champions Aston Villa and runaway English League leaders Liverpool—ending England's six-year domination of Europe's premier club competition—has left Juventus firm favourites to take the trophy to Italy for the first time since AC Milan won it in 1969.

But despite Juventus' undoubted talent in every department, the Poles can take heart from the fact that talent does not always tell.

A recent instance of this unpredictability came in Juventus' last league match against neighbours Torino. They surrendered a two-goal lead in the space of four minutes and a 3-2 defeat virtually killed their chances of retaining the Italian title.

Juventus manager Giovanni Trapattoni saw Widzew warm up for Wednesday's match with a 3-1 win over local rivals LKS Lodz and afterwards said that unless his side played as assertively as they did against Belgians Standard Liege and Villa in earlier rounds of the cup "these devils are going to punish us without mercy, as Torino did."

Centre forward Wlodzimierz Smolarek, one of three Polish World Cup squad players in the Widzew side, scored the first goal against LKS and laid on another.

His battle with hard-tackling Italian international Claudio Gentile is expected to be one of the key confrontations of an intriguing tie. Smolarek, the Widzew skipper, said gentle would find him a more difficult opponent than Argentine Diego Maradona or Brazil's Zico, whom he marked during the World Cup.

Juventus striker Paolo Rossi has been troubled by a knee injury recently, but Trapattoni expects his side to be at full strength on Wednesday.

San Sebastian's Real Sociedad, like Widzew one of the dark horses of the tournament, will be pla-

ying their first semifinal in a European competition when they tackle Hamburg.

The Basque side, League Champions for the past two years, have struggled to find their best form this season. But they warmed up for Wednesday's home leg with a 1-0 League win over Barcelona Sunday.

The Spaniards will have to keep a tight rein on Hamburg's Danish international Lars Bastrop, who scored a stunning hat-trick in the 3-0 quarter-final away leg win over Dynamo Kiev of the Soviet Union.

Hamburg, beaten by England's Nottingham Forest in the 1980 final, are looking to become only the second West German club to lift the trophy. Bayern Munich won it on three successive occasions between 1974 and 1976.

Spain also have an interest in the Cupwinners' Cup where Real Madrid, six times winners of the Champions' Cup, are firm favourites to reach the final at the expense of Austria, Vienna.

Real, missing their two top foreign exiles, Dutchman Johnny Metgod (suspended) and West German Uli Stielike (rested), swept back to the top of the Spanish first division Sunday with a 2-0 home win over Athletic Bilbao.

But they can expect a tough time in Vienna on Wednesday. The Austrian champions will be buoyed by a 5-1 thrashing of lask in a league match on Saturday.

Scotland's Aberdeen, whose European pedigree was improved by their quarter-final win over Bayern, entertain Belgium's Watereche in the other semifinal. The semifinal first leg ties of the UEFA Cup pit Portugal's Benfica against Romanians Universitatea Craiova and Bohemians Prague of Czechoslovakia against Belgium's Anderlecht.

Benfica, twice winners of the European Cup during their heyday in the early 60s, have yet to be beaten in a UEFA tie this season.

TENNIS TALK

Mixed doubles

By Maureen Stalla

MIXED DOUBLES can be a fascinating and complicated game. It is a doubles match where the teams are usually uneven. Because of this, both the man and the woman have certain problems to overcome.

The woman is usually intimidated in the match. She is nervous about letting her partner down, and also afraid her opponent will slam balls at her. Her fear must be put aside and she must hold her own. The players should work as a team as much as possible. If the woman has a definite deficiency, they should discuss it before the match and adapt their tactics accordingly. Even though the man usually takes the tough shots and most smashes, the woman must play her side. If the other team is playing the woman, she must dig in and get the ball back until her partner can attack. She should lob often and direct her balls to the lady.

The man must decide how he is going to play with respect to the woman on the other team. Most tennis books and coaches advocate going for her jugular. In professional doubles this is fair. But in purely social doubles, I think he should not terrorise his female opponent. Winning in social doubles should be secondary to having a good time and keeping good friends. However, in a tournament, it is expected that you play the lady—it is the logical thing to do. The man should serve first as his serve is stronger, and it is important to get the first game. There are two exceptions to this: If the woman would wind up serving in the sun, perhaps she should serve first; and if there is a stiff wind blowing the length of the court, it might be wise to let her serve with it to give her serve more speed. The man should not ease up on his serve to the woman—that is like giving away points.

The man should play the backhand side, assuming he is the stronger player. Even if she is left handed this is usually best because this is the side where close games are decided and it is best to have your strength there. Poaching is good doubles. But be sure, in social doubles that poaching does not become hogging, or you will irritate all the players. And, if you are playing with your wife, you might pay for it later.

In the end, your success in mixed doubles, as in any doubles, depends on your teamwork. Work out your strengths and weaknesses together and you will find mixed doubles to be interesting and rewarding in its own way.

Police convinced Shergar held by terrorists, paper says

LONDON (Agencies) — Police on both sides of the Irish border are convinced that the abducted Derby-winning racehorse Shergar is being held by terrorists, the Sunday Times reported.

The report contradicts repeated statements by the police that they have no idea what has happened to the horse.

Shergar, worth millions of pounds for breeding, was taken at gunpoint from the Aga Khan's Ballyman Stud Farm at Newbridge in the Irish Republic on Feb. 8. No trace of it has been reported and a series of ransom demands turned out to be either hoaxes or unexplained mysteries.

The Sunday Times said that police in Ireland "are fairly sure" that the Aga Khan and the abductors have been negotiating. It said an intensive police undercover search for the animal has been mounted along the border, concentrated in South Armagh on the northern side a stronghold of the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) and known by the British army as "bandit country."

The Sunday Times said the police believe Shergar was abducted by the Provisionals, who always need cash to buy arms.

The police in British-ruled Northern Ireland and in the republic in the south are opposed to any ransom payment but the syndicate owning Shergar might be ready to hand over cash to get the horse back, the report said.

The latest mystery about the horse took place last Friday, when a telephone caller told the Irish state radio network that if a ransom of 1.5 million Irish pounds (\$1.95 million) was not paid by Saturday morning, the head of the horse would be dumped in a Dublin park.

No head was found and a spokesman for the Aga Khan said nothing was paid. Police said they believed the call was a hoax.

Bobby Charlton returns to soccer management

LONDON (R) — Former England soccer star Bobby Charlton returned to management Monday with third division Wigan but said he did not want to keep the post.

"I don't want the job permanently," said Charlton, a director at Wigan, who agreed to take over as manager after the sacking of Larry Lloyd, a former England defender.

Charlton, 45, won 106 England caps and made more than 600 league appearances for Manchester United. He won a World Cup winners' medal with England in 1966 and scored twice in United's 4-1 defeat of Portugal's Benfica in the 1968 European Cup final.

Charlton's successes as a player were not mirrored in his only previous experience as manager—a two-year spell with Preston in the mid-1970s which saw the club drop from the second division to the third.

Lloyd, 34, took Wigan to promotion from the fourth division last season but was fired Monday after a four-match losing streak which plunged the club towards the relegation zone.

Lloyd is retained as a player. His player's contract has 18 months to run. Charlton will have control of team affairs until results improve and Wigan's third division place is secure.

"I have no managerial ambitions at all. This situation has been thrust upon me. My first priority is to win a match and get a few smiles back around the place," Charlton said.

One of Charlton's contemporaries, Jimmy Bloomfield,

died Sunday night at his London home at the age of 49. Bloomfield, an inside forward, made over 500 league and cup appearances and played in the England under-23 team.

Bloomfield, who played most of his football for Arsenal, became the league's highest paid manager when he took over at Leicester in 1971. He went to Orient six years later but had two serious operations which forced him to leave in 1981.

West German cup final all-Cologne affair

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — A sensational 5-0 semifinal victory Monday by second division Fortuna Cologne over Borussia Dortmund means that this year's West German Soccer Cup final will be an all-Cologne affair.

Playing at home before a capacity crowd of 14,000, Fortuna stunned Borussia with three goals in the first 35 minutes and wrapped matters up with two in the last three minutes.

In the final on June 11 they play neighbours 1st F.C. Cologne, who on Saturday beat VFB Stuttgart 3-2 in extra time in the other semifinal, also played in this city on the Rhine.

Fortuna, fourth in the second division table but with little chance of promotion, have put paid to two other first division sides, Eintracht Brunswick and Borussia Moenchengladbach on their way to the final.

Two of the Cologne side's goals came from 24-year-old Dieter Schatzschneider, a highly rated striker who has notched 25 league goals this season.

Schatzschneider, widely tipped for the national team, is already set to join champions Hamburg SV this summer as a replacement for Horst Hrubesch, who leaves for Standard Liege.

Pakistan set for five tests against Australia

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan will play a five-test series against Australia for the first time on their three and a half months cricket tour starting next Oct. 21.

Arif Abbasi, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP), Monday gave details of a tentative itinerary for the Australian tour.

It comprised six first class fixtures, five tests, a limited overs match and the triangular one-day World Series Cup against Australia and West Indies.

The tests are scheduled for Perth (November 11-15), Brisbane (November 25-29), Adelaide (December 9-13), Melbourne (December 26-30) and Sydney (January 2-6).

Pakistan have played no more than three tests in each of their 10 previous series against Australia which started in 1956-57.

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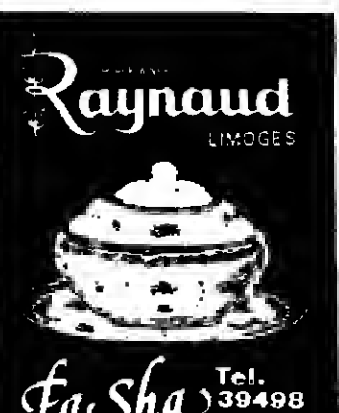
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مكتبة العامة

ECONOMY

Zhao urges Third World to coordinate development

PEKING (R) — Third World countries must sink their differences and cooperate fully in the struggle to build a new international economic order, Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang said Monday.

He was giving the opening address at a four-day "South-South conference" in Peking attended by scholars and development experts from Third World countries. "China is a developing socialist country belonging to the Third World," Mr. Zhao said, reiterating a theme which has become common in recent months as Peking tries to distance itself from the two super-powers.

"The Chinese government has unwaveringly taken as the corner stone of its foreign policy the strengthening of unity and cooperation with other Third World countries," he said.

Mr. Zhao added the Peking conference was being held at a time when the world economic situation was extremely grim, and developing countries were seeking ways to cope with it.

The meeting was a timely and apt forum "to explore ... such important issues as the development strategies of the developing countries, North-South negotiations and South-South cooperation," he said.

The success of Third World countries' development strategies depended to a very large extent on fundamental changes in "the unjust and inequitable old international economic order."

"The super-powers either stubbornly reject the idea of restructuring the old international economic order or take an indifferent attitude towards it," Mr. Zhao said.

"Therefore it becomes all the more necessary for us Third World countries to strengthen our unity and cooperation."

Third World countries should draw up urgent, feasible economic development projects and coordinate their actions in the various forums of North-South negotiations.

The Peking symposium is org-

anised jointly by the London-based Third World Foundation and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Mr. Altaf Gauhar, secretary-general of the Third World Foundation and one of the co-chairmen, told a new conference that many development strategies and projects had been evolved over the past 30 years and almost all of them had proved less than fruitful.

He quoted World Bank estimates that 800 million people in the world lived in poverty and that Third World countries were burdened with debts of about \$800 billion.

Mr. Gauhar said the so-called North-South dialogue between rich and poor nations had given no worthwhile results and experts in both the industrial and developing worlds had run out of ideas.

All that had emerged, he said, was the concept of national and collective self-reliance which needed to be fashioned and corrected in far more concrete terms.

Comecon warned not to expect more Soviet oil

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow's communist allies should not hope for any increase in the amount of oil they import from the Soviet Union, a leading economist warned in an article published here Monday.

Mr. Oleg Bogomolov, senior expert on relations within the Soviet-led Comecon trading group, said the allies must improve the way they used existing supplies and rely on domestic resources or nuclear energy for additional needs.

The article, published in the political monthly Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn (International Life) was evidently meant to set out Moscow's position at a forthcoming summit of Comecon, widely expected to take place in Moscow in May.

Officials in some East European states, especially Romania and Czechoslovakia, have hinted that their governments will press for increased Soviet oil supplies and lower prices at the summit.

"We have clearly reached the limit in output of oil and a number of other components of our energy and raw material exports, except, of course, gas and electro-

energy," Mr. Bogomolov said in the article.

Soviet oil production has stabilised at just over 600 million tonnes a year (12 million barrels per day).

Around a quarter of this is exported and the largest share has always gone to the East European communist states and Cuba.

But according to East European sources, Moscow has cut supplies by as much as 10 per cent over the past few months and diverted the oil on to the Western market.

Mr. Bogomolov made clear the Soviet leadership would not soften its tough line on the question of oil supplies but said there could be increases in gas supplies to allied states.

As well as urging the allies to develop nuclear power, the Soviet academician said they should look to developing countries as sources of energy.

Comecon countries could help to tap Third World reserves and import the fuel in exchange for deliveries of machinery and equipment, he said.

That may still be below world price levels, but even if it is not, oil bought from Moscow under Comecon agreements has two advantages.

It is paid for in Comecon's currency of transferable roubles, so East-bloc customers do not need to spend scarce hard currency reserves, while transport costs to Eastern Europe from the Soviet Union are less than from world markets.

The impact of lower oil prices may be eased if prices for refined products fall less than crude, while falling interest rates may outweigh the losses from cheaper oil.

But the institute reckons that a 20 per cent drop in the oil price would cost the Soviet Union \$3.5 billion — roughly its 1982 trade surplus with the West — while East Germany and Romania would lose about \$250 million and Poland and Czechoslovakia about \$100 million.

E. European states face dwindling export markets

VIENNA (R) — OPEC's economic difficulties and the depressed world oil trade, highlighted by the oil price cut, raise the spectre of dwindling export markets for many East European countries, Western economists say.

The smaller East European countries will not benefit from the \$5 cut to \$29 a barrel announced by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Except for Romania, Eastern Europe gets most of its oil from the Soviet Union at rates reflecting world levels over the last five years, which will start falling only in 1985.

But many East European countries have set up refining industries even if they are not traditional oil exporters.

Consequently, their foreign exchange earnings from exports of refined products are at risk in the current world oil glut.

Like Western countries, the members of the communist trade

bloc Comecon have built up important export markets among oil producers whose purchasing power is now threatened.

According to the Vienna Institute for Comparative Economic Studies, oil products accounted for 29 per cent of Bulgaria's exports to Western industrialised countries in 1981 and 24 per cent of East Germany's.

Among traditional East-bloc oil exporters the figures are even higher. Romanian oil sales formed 41 per cent of its 1981 exports to the West and it was 56 per cent of Soviet Western exports, with energy supplying 78 per cent of its Western sales.

Economists at the institute stress it is hard to predict the impact of lower world prices on East European countries as they will pay about 17 per cent more for their Soviet oil this year than in 1982, under Comecon's pricing system.

That may still be below world price levels, but even if it is not, oil bought from Moscow under Comecon agreements has two advantages.

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Third World wants to sell more processed materials

GENEVA — Developing countries are to give top priority in their economic plans to increasing exports of processed raw materials and foodstuffs, to offset losses made because of low prices for unprocessed raw materials exports.

This agreement, reached in consultations before the recent non-aligned summit meeting in New Delhi, will be included in a joint Third World position being prepared for the sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Belgrade next June.

The 154-nation UNCTAD will discuss ways of increasing cooperation between rich and poor countries to boost economic development.

Details of the international measures needed to help developing countries increase processed commodity exports have yet to be worked out fully, but they will be based on suggestions made in Geneva by UNCTAD's secretariat.

These will supplement talks among major commodity producers and consumers to reach international agreements to stabilise commodity prices.

The main thrust of UNCTAD's suggestions is aimed at reducing the influence of traditional multinationals, which often control not only the mining or cultivation of raw commodities but also their transport, processing, manufacturing and distribution.

This leaves little scope for smaller and independent newcomers, including government-owned Third World enterprises trying to break into markets.

Increasing exports of processed raw materials are crucial for economic development because they fetch higher prices and encourage industrialisation of producer countries.

Corporation domination is seen as particularly blatant in such commodities as bauxite, tobacco, coffee, bananas, tea and copper, while government subsidies or import barriers protect processing industries in the West for iron and steel, textiles, leather and hard fibres.

One of UNCTAD's main recommendations is that new Third World traders be treated as equals of the traditional Western traders on commodity exchanges, particularly in such cities as London and Chicago.

It suggests creation of internationally agreed rules to be obeyed by all commodity exchanges, ensuring fair treatment for Third World companies and setting minimum standards for services which even new exchanges in developing countries must maintain.

At least \$400 billion is likely to have to be invested in developing countries before 1995 just to maintain existing processing facilities in minerals alone, before counting the cost of heavy machinery and infrastructure. Increased processing capacities in minerals and foodstuffs will be even more costly.

Most of the money will have to come from private banks, but many developing countries will not be able to raise it because of their low credit rating.

Therefore, a new international resources development finance group should be created, bringing together existing institutions such as the World Bank and regional development banks, whose financial assets may be enough to allow it to borrow cheaply from private markets for relending to commodity producers.

Western nations are asked to sign long-term contracts to buy natural products such as rubber, cotton, wool and jute, which are threatened by artificial substitutes. They are also asked to sign long-term supply contracts with producers of these goods and other natural materials.

Financial Times news features

Oil market will improve if OPEC obeys rules

ABU DHABI (R) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Mansour bin Juma Al Otaiba predicted Monday that if OPEC members obeyed the exporter group's pricing and production rules the world-oil market would improve in the autumn.

OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) oil ministers cut the oil reference price by \$5 a barrel to \$29 and set an overall production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels per day at crisis talks last month in London.

Dr. Otaiba told Reuters that if all of OPEC's 13 members obeyed the London accord, which also assigned individual output quotas, then "we will see some sign of improvement in the market in autumn this year".

He said he was confident Nigeria's decision not to match a small cut proposed in British North Sea prices would support the market.

But he appealed to both OPEC and non-OPEC countries not to cut their prices, so that the market

would pass its crisis.

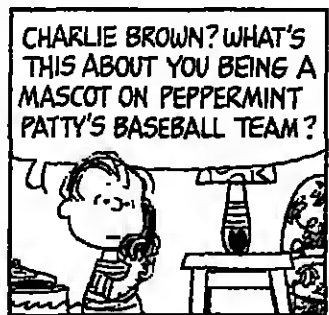
Dr. Otaiba said an OPEC market monitoring committee which he chairs would meet in London on April 18. The four-minister group acts as a watchdog on pricing and production by OPEC countries.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday that the possibility of a world oil price war had greatly receded following the British pricing proposal.

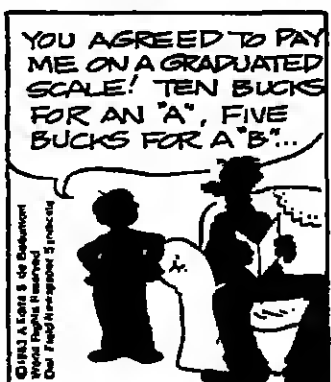
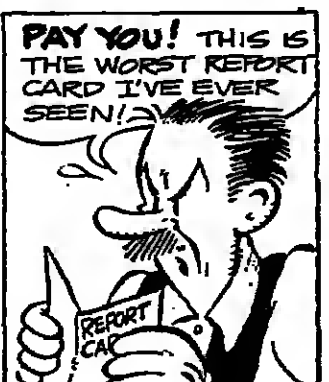
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"Need on idea for your first novel? Write about a husband who dies of neglect while his wife tries to write her first novel."

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Kenworthy

ACROSS

1 Milk comb. form

6 Peak

10 Govt. agency

14 Mrs. Irving Berlin

15 Supercilious ridge

16 Emaciated

17 Set in rows

18 Choosy

20 Kind of transmission

22 "Johnny!"

23 Sty sound

24 Woods

25 Misinformed

28 Road sign

29 Foreigners

30 Preachers of the gospel

35 Voice imitator

36 Young fish

37 Wear away

38 Breed of cattle

40 Led

41 Three — match

42 Occur

43 Golf club

47 Agts.

48 Garret

49 Goller's aspiration

54 It's your choice

56 Ranch guests?

57 — Boleyn

58 Ralated

59 Fields a blue pencil

60 Seines

61 Leasin' —

62 Sight, for one

DOWN

1 Page

2 "I want for..."

3 154

4 Antler branch

5 Personal decision

6 Not here

7 Rivulet

8 Influence

9 Lamb's mother

10 Express

11 Borough

12 Low joints

13 "— of robins..."

19 Select teams

21 Bakeshop wares

24 Ziegfeld

25 Fighting companion

26 Ananias, for one

27 Part of the eye

28 Caleb or Joshua

29 Arabian garment

30 Have being

31 Stumble

32 Metal vein

33 Elysium

34 But Lat.

36 Monastery resident

39 Chemical suffix

40 Stare with open mouth

42 Western capital

43 Central American language

44 Make amends

45 Trick

46 Skins

47 Souptier

48 Auguste

49 Strenuous walk

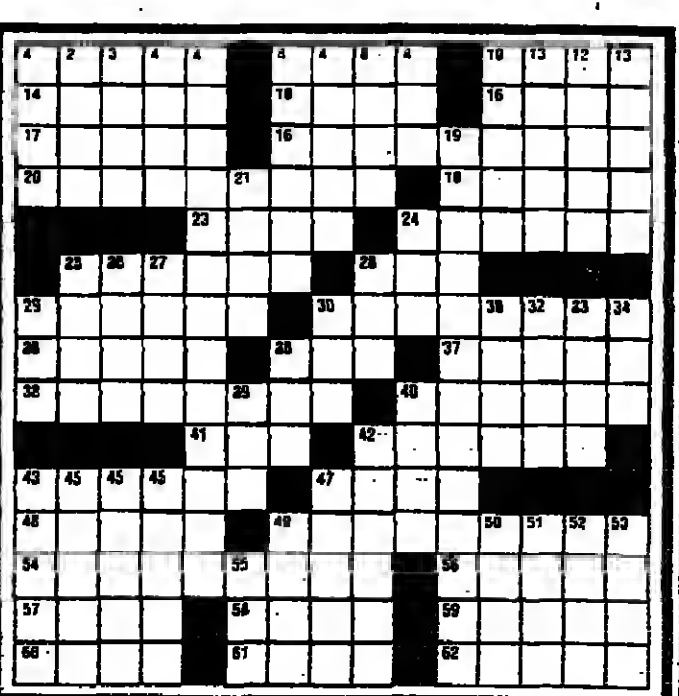
50 Hosiery shade

51 Norse war god

52 Earns after deductions

53 Being Lat.

55 Coolidge, to friends



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كذلك في اليوم

WORLD

Zimbabwe rebels kill senator, daughter and British visitor

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe rebels have killed a white senator, his daughter and a British visitor in a raid on their farm, a government spokesman said Monday.

The rebels also seriously wounded the wife of Senator Paul Savage in the attack Sunday night while the family was having a barbecue, he said.

The spokesman said between 20 and 30 dissidents struck at the Savage ranch in Matabeleland, about 130 kilometres south of the provincial capital of Bulawayo.

A white farmer, his wife and two teenage granddaughters were killed by rebels 150 kilometres west of Bulawayo two weeks ago.

The spokesman said Savage, 60,

his daughter Colleen, 20, and a friend from Britain died instantly in a hail of gunfire.

The visitor's name was withheld until next-of-kin had been informed, but friends of the Savage family said she was a young woman.

The raiders had ordered all ranch workers into the hills before making for the Savage family, the spokesman said.

"They then surrounded the homestead where the Savages and a visitor were having a barbecue and ordered them to raise their hands," he said.

When their hands were up, the rebels opened fire.

After the slaughter the rebels ransacked the Savage house and

stole a large quantity of property, the spokesman said.

He added that it was believed that one bandit was killed accidentally during the shooting and buried nearby in a shallow grave by his companions.

Friends said they understood Mrs. Savage was out of danger Monday.

Former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith told Reuters Monday: "I'm badly shaken. This is a terrible tragedy."

Reached by telephone at his Midlands farm, Smith said Savage was a close friend, "one of the best loved men in that part of the world."

The girl from Britain, he said,

was a frequent visitor and had many friends in Zimbabwe. "A nice person would be difficult to find," he said.

Smith said he had no idea what had given rise to the attack. "The scene in Matabeleland is a very strange one," he said. "I just don't know what it's all about."

At least 130 people, including more than 30 whites, mostly farmers and miners, have been officially reported killed by rebels in Matabeleland in the past year.

The government has blamed the Matabeleland-based opposition Zupu Party of Joshua Nkomo for the trouble. Zupu has denied it, saying it does not know who the dissidents are.

W.Germans stage biggest anti-nuclear demonstration

BONN (R) — The West German Peace Movement said more than half a million anti-nuclear demonstrators were Monday marching to rallies climaxing four days of protest.

Organisers said the ranks of demonstrators converging on cities including Dortmund, Mainz, Cologne, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Munich and West Berlin were swelling all the time.

The biggest protest action Monday against a military establishment was at Kellinghusen in Schleswig-Holstein. About 10,000 people formed a human chain round a NATO base where they say nuclear missiles are stationed.

About 160 protesters who tried to block entry to a United States radar installation in West Berlin Sunday were detained for violating a ban on demonstrations near military facilities.

Police continually moved protesters sitting in front of the main gates of the U.S. Wiley barracks in Neu-Ulm, Bavaria, where Pershing-2 missiles may be deployed later this year.

One of those removed Sunday was Gerd Bastian, a retired army major-general who is now a member of parliament for the anti-nuclear Greens.

Basque Socialist leader criticises local government

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (R) — Basque Socialist Party leader Jose Maria Benegas has accused the local government of capitalising on terrorism to gain political concessions from the Socialist central government.

Sunday's Basque National Day brought angry responses to a resolution by the ruling Conservative Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) saying full cooperation against terrorism would depend on broadening the region's autonomous powers.

Mr. Benegas said in a statement the PNV was "taking advantage of terrorism to put its political demands to the state" and it was "indirectly justifying violence."

Julen Guzman, a Basque member of the right-wing opposition party Popular Alliance, said: "Not all Basques think this way and I am sure that not even the Nationalists back such blackmail."

PNV Council President Xabier Arzallus told supporters: "If they think the PNV is essential for the pacification of this region, let them pay attention to what we are asking."

A PNV statement Sunday accused the Socialist central government of indifference to Basque public opinion in its attempt to oppose separatist violence by boosting security forces in the area.

Benegas said the Basque country had suffered more than 400 victims of terrorism, extortion demands for revolutionary taxes on thousands of people by separatist guerrillas and two kidnaps.

Basque separatist killings totalled 41 in 1982 and four people have been killed this year in attacks mostly claimed by ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom) guerrillas. Two businessmen have been held by guerrillas since their kidnaps on March 21 and 25.

Vietnamese artillery hit targets inside Thailand

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnamese artillery and tanks Monday pounded targets inside Thailand as Hanoi continued its drive against guerrilla forces in Kampuchea. Thai military sources said.

They said Thai forces returned fire along a 10 kilometre front where Vietnamese troops were attacking Khmer Rouge guerrillas who fled their camps along the Thai-Kampuchean border when the offensive began five days ago.

The renewed exchanges followed a Vietnamese thrust two kilometres into Thailand over the weekend when five Thai soldiers died and 10 were wounded.

Thai army chief Arthit Kamlang-ek said his troops halted the thrust and drove about 100 Vietnamese back into Kampuchea after fierce artillery duels and hand-to-hand fighting around the mountain of Phnom Pra, 280 kilometres east of Bangkok.

The military sources said Monday that the Vietnamese also shelled a camp housing some 30,000 refugees and insurgents loyal to former head of state Prince Nor-

odom Sihanouk.

Vietnamese carry gas masks

MANILA (R) — Vietnamese soldiers captured by Thai forces during the current incursion across the Kampuchean border were equipped with gas masks, the speaker of the Thai National Assembly said Monday.

Air Chief Marshal Harin Hongskula told reporters he suspected they were using gas in their campaign against Kampuchean forces opposed to the Soviet-backed Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh.

The United States has accused the Communist-led Indochinese states of using lethal gas against rebels.

The Thai speaker said he could not give details of how many Vietnamese troops were captured during their incursions into Thailand but told a questioner it was less than 20.

He described the fighting between Thai and Vietnamese troops as "not so serious ... we are in control of the situation."

British seamen may strike over government's 'piracy'

LONDON (R) — Britain's Seamen's Union has threatened strike action over a troopship which was sailing in the north sea Monday after an undercover operation by the Royal Navy to move it out of port.

Union leaders are to hold an emergency session on Tuesday after sending telex messages to members at sea telling them to be prepared for industrial action.

General secretary Jim Slater accused the defence ministry of "downright piracy" of the 9,000-ton Kerens, a former ferry which sailed from Wallsend Dock, northeast England, after conversion as a troopship with a helicopter pad.

The vessel, bought by the government for seven million sterling (£10 million) for use in the Falkland Islands, was taken over by the Royal Navy when a dispute over pay for its merchant navy crew seemed likely to delay departure.

The union said the ship was smuggled out of port in the early hours of Saturday by Royal Navy men dressed in civilian clothes after its crew had been sent on leave.

The government confirmed the

ship had sailed with a crew of 55 ratings and 12 officers and administrators, and a few soldiers and airmen.

"We had to ensure that the troops could be moved as required," Jerry Wiggins, under-secretary for the armed forces, told a television interviewer.

The Kerens, formerly the ferry St. Edmund on the Harwich-Hook of Holland Route, was used as an accommodation vessel during Britain's Falklands conflict with Argentina last year. It is now wanted as a troop carrier in the South Atlantic.

Slater, condemning what he called the hijacking of the ship, said the government had been panicked into ordering an "Argentine-style" raid against an unarmed merchant vessel.

He said the dispute involved pay and crew levels.

North Sea ferry crews earn about 40 sterling (£52) a week more than those on ocean-going voyages. Shore leave is also less favourable.

A strike order would affect some 30,000 members and about 700 ships with British crews, a union official said.

Mozambique sentences 6 rebels, robbers to death

MAPUTO (R) — Six men have been sentenced to death and 11 jailed and flogged after being convicted of rebel activity, robbery and black marketeering, the official Mozambican News Agency AIM reported Monday.

Two of the men condemned to death, Julia Tauzene and Jose Muchinga, were found guilty by the Maputo military revolutionary

tribunal of belonging to the Mozambique National Resistance (RENAMO), a guerrilla organisation said by Mozambique to be run by South Africa. Pretoria denies involvement with the RNM.

They were alleged to have killed and kidnapped civilians and destroyed schools, hospitals, shops and communal villages.

The court was told that Tauzene

had twice been taken to South Africa by helicopter to collect weapons for his group.

One other man sentenced to die was found to have smuggled prawns, television sets and video machines across the Swaziland border. Pawns are one of Mozambique's main foreign exchange earners and of crucial importance to the economy of the im-

poorised Socialist state.

Another man was sentenced to death for stealing sugar and maize to be sold on the black market, while two were condemned to die for robbing a bakery and murdering its owner.

A lorry-driver in the prawn and video operation was jailed for 12 years and given 45 strokes of the lash.

19 killed as militants block Punjab roads

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 19 people were killed and 180 injured in the North Indian state of Punjab Monday when police tried to clear roads blocked by thousands of protesting Sikh militants, a police spokesman said.

The casualties occurred in exchanges of gunfire between police and demonstrators in several places across the northern farming state, the spokesman told Reuters by telephone from the Punjab capital of Chandigarh. At least 124 police and 56 protesters were wounded, he said.

Police moved in after thousands of Sikhs chanting religious hymns erected barricades and squatted on roads in the eight-hour blo-

ckade organised by the Sikh Akali Dal party. The party is campaigning for religious and political demands including greater autonomy for the Punjab, where most Sikhs live.

Police said they returned fire when they were shot at as they tried to disperse angry protesters in several parts of Punjab. The greatest number of deaths was in the southern district of Sangrur, where 11 militants were killed by police in two separate incidents, the spokesman said.

Several demonstrators were injured in police baton charges. Security forces also used tear gas and water hoses to disperse stone-throwing Sikhs. In one part

of Sangrur district about a dozen small shops were burned down and protesters set fire to vehicles and a police post.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said most traffic across the state was paralysed during the protest. Akali Dal leader Harmandir Singh Longowal claimed the road blockade was a complete success, condemning what he termed unprovoked police shooting and indiscriminate use of tear gas.

He called an emergency meeting of the party's leadership in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar on Thursday to review their campaign. Police were ordered to maintain traffic on key roads during Monday's protest.

Space shuttle cargo includes seeds as well as Japanese artificial snow

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE (R) — The U.S. space shuttle Challenger takes an intriguing variety of experiments into orbit this time, including a canister of seeds to test the effects of space on plant growth and a snow-formation package sponsored by a Japanese newspaper.

A cylinder of experiments devised by aspiring astronauts from the U.S. Air Force Academy was mounted beside the seed and snow units in Challenger's cargo bay.

In the cabin the astronauts will conduct sophisticated experiments that could lead to the manufacture in space of new medicines and unsurgical aids that cannot be made on earth.

The right to have an experiment taken aboard the spacecraft could be bought for as little as \$3,000, with the aim of stimulating larger-scale space activities later.

A South Carolina seed company hopes the flight of 44 types of flower, vegetable and herb seeds will eventually lead to use of plants on a self-sustaining U.S. space station.

One section of the seeds can-

ister is sealed to maintain an earth-like atmosphere and the other will be exposed to the vacuum and harsh radiation of space when Challenger's payload bay doors are opened after attaining orbit.

George Park, president of the George W. Park Seed Company of Greenwood, South Carolina, told reporters the effects of space travel and its harsh environment should provide valuable information on genetic research for his firm.

The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun chose its experiment from 17,000 ideas sent in by readers.

Using water from a pond at the foot of Mount Fuji, the experiment is designed to observe the crystal growth of artificial snow in weightless conditions.

Expensive experiment

The Japanese experiment employs the latest in miniature television technology and was designed and built at a cost of about

\$340,000. It will be activated by one of the astronauts about three days into the flight.

"We would like to make beautiful snow crystals floating in the void of space," Asahi Shimbun executive Shigeru Kimura told reporters. "No one knows what kind of crystals will be formed under weightlessness."

Kimura said the first artificial snow crystals were made in 1936 by a Japanese physicist, the late Ukichiro Nakaya of Hokkaido University, and "We wanted to make sure that the first artificial snow in space is also Japanese."

He said no direct commercial applications were expected to result from the experiment.

The Air Force Academy's package of six metallurgical and biological experiments should provide important data on subjects such as materials-processing and construction in space.

The academy has devoted five years of development to its project and six senior cadets have been primarily responsible for final development as part of an engineering and design course.

Easter taken seriously in overwhelmingly R. Catholic Poland

By Robert Strybel
Reporter

WARSAW — Easter in officially atheist Poland is taken very seriously, particularly in these times of political and economic crisis.

The young Polish woman who refused meat during dinner with non-Catholic friends on Easter Friday was typical, saying: "We don't want God against us as well as everything else."

The remark, only half in jest, reflected the strength of commitment still felt by staunchly Catholic Poles to their religious traditions, including abstinence from meat on Good Friday, despite 38 years of communist rule.

At Easter, queues resembling those usually seen outside shops selling shoes, refrigerators or chocolate form outside churches as believers wait to see tableaux of Christ's tomb and have priests bless their Easter hampers of food.

The ancient customs still persist — from the collection of newly-blessed holy water and fire to the

hurling of water at one another on Easter Monday.

Through it all runs a stream of political symbolism and innuendo, like most things in Poland. The safe forum of the church has been used this Easter, as so often before, to express general anger and frustration at unpopular government policies.

Symbolic representations of the rock tomb where the body of Jesus Christ was placed after his crucifixion frequently have a contemporary political theme.

At one church, the area in front of the tomb was scattered with traditional crucifixion tools like a ladder and hammer, but there were also spent tear gas cans, truncheons, stones and bottles as reminders of last year's street fights between riot police and supporters of the banned Solidarity free trade union.

The clergy in many churches included the Solidarity theme in their displays, recalling the support the church has given to martial law detainees and its appeals for an amnesty for political pri-

soners before the Pope's visit here in June.

A long queue wound through the streets of old Warsaw as people waited to see the tableau in St. John's cathedral, the see of the primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp.

Glemp's moderate approach

This had an exclusively religious theme, reflecting the cautious and moderate approach taken by the primate which has been criticised as too mild by some junior priests and opposition activities looking for firmer support.

In his message, Cardinal Glemp linked condemnation of the government's repression of its opponents with exhortations to observe Christian values.

"We painfully experience the loss of freedom of many of our fellow citizens, but at the same time, we are aware of the enormity of the sin of depriving unborn babies of life," he said in a reference to the church's anti-abortion campaign.

In a statement that surprised many Poles fighting for greater freedom of expression, he linked anger at cultural restrictions with criticism of those who "trample fences, litter our housing estates and pollute forests with tins."

But less senior clergymen maintained the tradition of expressing the feelings of the majority of their parishioners through religion.

No secularisation

This practice has been handed down through even the worst suppression of the church during the Stalinist period in the early 1950s, and in the face of attempts to secularise main church festivals.

Efforts by the communists to turn Christmas into "the feast of the evergreen," Santa Claus (St. Nicholas) into "father frost" and Easter into "the feast of the bunniest" failed.

But Poland's overwhelming Catholic community has never come under the anti-religious pressure exerted in the Soviet Union

and some other communist bloc states.

So Easter traditions persist, from Palm Sunday processions on the Sunday before Easter when branches are laid before walkers, to the procession three times round the church on Easter Sunday, resurrection day.

Millions of Poles crowded into churches on Easter Saturday with baskets of food to be blessed — containing coloured eggs, sausage, ham, Easter cake, lambs made of rock candy and all other foods for the Sunday feast.

The one item not taken in is vodka, an integral feature of the feast. The church is engaged in an anti-alcohol campaign.

On the Saturday evening, children can be seen carefully shielding a candle as they hurry home, with a blessed flame.

And on Easter Monday, particularly in country communities, the custom of dousing continues, boys trying to drench girls with a pail of water. Known as "smigus dyngus", its origins are lost in the mists of the middle ages.

NEWS IN BRIEF

2 arrested for illegal possession of arms in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Two people were arrested in Khartoum, eastern Sudan, for illegal possession of arms and ammunition, the Sudan News Agency said Monday. Quoting a state security source, the agency said preliminary investigations revealed that the two men were connected with an alleged Libyan attempt in February to topple the government of Sudanese President Jaafar Nimeiri. It said 19 rifles and 13 automatic rifles were seized when the arrests were made last week.

Hong Kong police kill man on rampage

HONG KONG (R) — Police shot dead a 60-year-old man who rampaged through an apartment block, slashing and stabbing four people with a pointed iron bar. Police said the man, from Wan Man, was shot through the chest on a housing estate in Hong Kong's Kowloon area Sunday night after ignoring repeated appeals to surrender. His victims, one of them a policeman, were all recovering in hospital.

Soviet writer sentenced to 5 years internal exile

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet religious writer Zoya Khukhmalnikova was sentenced to five years internal exile as well as a year in prison when convicted of anti-Soviet agitation last week, dissident sources said Monday. Following her trial on Friday, the official news agency TASS reported she had been jailed for one year for "defaming the USSR" but made no mention of the additional term of exile. Khukhmalnikova edited an underground religious journal, Nadezhda (Hope), for more than six years, until her arrest last August. She was accused of giving a "terribly distorted picture of Soviet reality" in the publication.

Greek government accused of terrorism

ATHENS (R) — The leader of the main opposition New Democracy Party Sunday accused the Greek Socialist government of creating a climate of violence and terrorism in the country. Evangelos Averoff was commenting on the bombing of a hotel early Sunday in Dibdimotikhon, near the Greek-Turkish border, after a speech by Party Secretary-General Ioannis Palaiologos, a former cabinet minister. Three people were injured when three home-made bombs exploded, causing extensive damage to the hotel. "The explosions are in the framework of the climate of violence and terrorism created by the government," Mr. Averoff said. Last month an unidentified gunman killed George Athanassiades, the owner of a right-wing newspaper and a staunch supporter of the New Democracy Party. Police are trying to establish whether the murder was politically motivated.

Iran begins trial of airmen over Bani Sadr's escape

LONDON (R) — Iranian authorities have begun the trial of a group of people accused of being involved in former President Abol Hassan Bani Sadr's escape from Iran, the National News Agency IRNA reported Monday. IRNA said the army revolutionary tribunal headed by Hojatoleslam Mohammadi Rezaei Shahrabi Monday opened the trial of eight air force technicians who are charged with taking part in hijacking a plane for the escape. Bani Sadr and Masoud Rajavi, leader of the leftist Mojahedin opposition group, fled the country in July 1981 aboard an airplane jet. They now live in exile in Paris. The agency also said a man called Kolahi is being tried for the bombing of the Islamic Republic Party headquarters in Tehran, where 72 leading clergymen and politicians were killed in June 1981.

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